FRIDAY
June 6, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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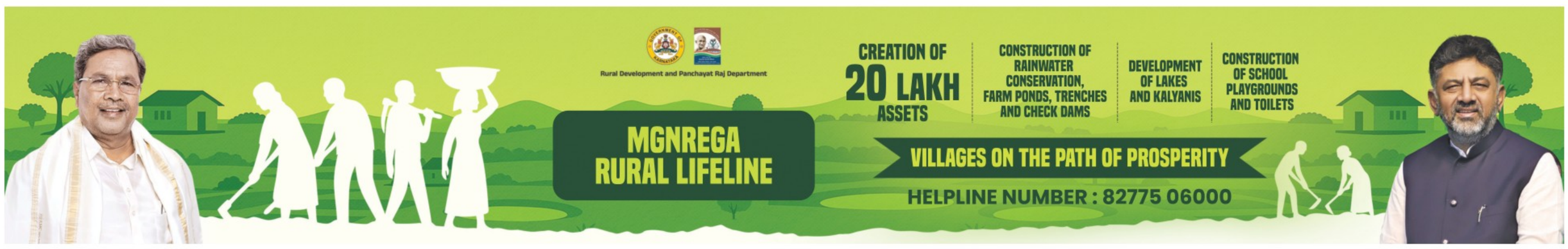

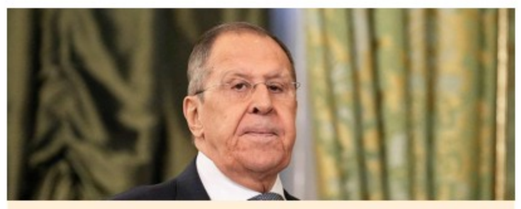

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Controversy brews ahead of Lavrov's visit

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Sabalenka knocks out champion Swiatek

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RCB booked; axe falls on Dayananda

CM announces judicial inquiry into stampede by a one-man commission headed by former Karnataka High Court judge Michael D'Cunha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after a stampede claimed the lives of 11 and left 56 injured at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here during revelry to celebrate Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) victory in IPL-2025, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that Bengaluru Police Commissioner B. Dayananda and all police officials responsible for the jurisdiction where the stadium is, have been suspended, pending inquiry.

The Chief Minister also announced a judicial inquiry by a one-man commission headed by former Karnataka High Court judge Michael D'Cunha.

Earlier in the day, after the High Court of Karnataka questioned the State government on the stampede during the hearing of a public interest litigation petition taken up *suo motu* by the court, the city police registered an FIR booking RCB franchise, DNA Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., an event management company, and the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA), the host for the celebration, for culpable homicide, illegal assembly and other serious charges.

Rushed on: Damaged grilles at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Thursday after the RCB victory celebration. SUDHAKARA JAIN

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Seemanth Kumar Singh is new city police chief

BENGALURU
Seemanth Kumar Singh, a 1996 batch IPS officer, presently Additional Director-General of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force, was posted as the 39th Bengaluru City Police Commissioner late on Thursday night. The order came hours after the suspension of B. Dayananda, who had a two-year-tenure as the city Police Commissioner.

HC poses nine questions to govt. on stampede

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The reason for taking cognisance of the incident is to ascertain the causes which led to the tragedy, says the Division Bench

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday directed the State government to come out with answers for nine questions on the cause of the stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru on Wednesday during the celebration of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's victory in the Indian Premier League (IPL) which left 11 dead and 56 injured.

A Division Bench, comprising acting Chief Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi, issued the direction after taking *suo motu* cognisance of the stampede deaths based on reports published in various newspapers, and various communications/emails received by the court from many persons on the issue of stampede.

The Bench said the reason for taking cognisance of the incident is to ascertain the causes which led to the tragedy, whether it could have been prevented and what remedial measures need to be taken to prevent such tragedies in the future.

Questions asked

Questions such as – whether assessment was made in advance on the number of people, who may be present at the time of celebration, what steps were taken to regulate the traffic and the public – were posed by the court while directing the government to give specific answers to them by June 10, when the Bench will take up the case for further hearing.

Earlier, Advocate-General Shashi Kiran Shetty told the court that the security arrangements in and around the stadium were made keeping in mind the total capacity of the stadium, which is around 34,600, and the number of police personnel deployed during every cricket match held in the stadium from past 18 years. However, the A-G said that around 2.5 lakh people had gathered around the stadium as against the capacity of 34,600 whereas the authorities had deployed a total of around 1,600 police officers and personnel as against the usual deployment of nearly 800 police personnel during any cricket match, including the IPL tournament.

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Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Bengaluru CLIMATE ACTION & RESILIENCE PLAN | Climate Action Cell

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Bengaluru Development

A significant step towards development

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As part of
World Environment Day – 2025

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YouTube Live link

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A Massive Clean-Up Campaign

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A Cleanliness awareness campaign is being organized in all Wards of the City

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Bengaluru Climate Action Cell
For more details, contact :
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All are welcome

Published By : Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002

F1's next big hope is rising rapidly through the ranks

Lindblad, who has Indian heritage through his mother, is seen as one of the brightest prospects in junior racing; the 17-year-old is part of the Red Bull junior programme and is making waves in F2 in only his third year of racing in cars; he emphasises on trying to keep learning during the current season while aiming to join the big league next year

DUTCH PHOTO AGENCY

S. Dipak Ragav

The road to Formula One, the pinnacle of single-seater racing, is one of the most challenging in sports. While the pathway to get there is structured through various levels in junior formulae, getting through those in the shortest time frame is the challenge most young racing drivers face.

Ever since Max Verstappen burst onto the scene as a 17-year-old, the top teams have always been in constant search for the next big thing.

In the lead-up to this season, there was much hype around Andrea Kimi Antonelli, the 18-year-old who replaced Lewis Hamilton at Mercedes this year. Many believe that the Italian is the next big thing in the mould of Verstappen.

Alongside Antonelli, this year, F1 is undergoing a generational transformation with as many as six rookies entering their first full season. Next year, the sport could have one more young gun joining the ranks.

Making history

In April, during the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in Jeddah, the 17-year-old Arvid Lindblad made history by becoming the youngest driver to win an FIA Formula 2 race in the sprint race that weekend.

The British racer has been part of Red Bull Racing's junior programme for the last few years and is one of the brightest prospects in the junior categories.

Interestingly, the teenager has Indian heritage through his mother and is quite familiar with the culture, having grown up in a household where his maternal grandmother took care of him and even prepared Indian food for race meetings. Last year, he visited India with his parents and maternal grandparents.

The Red Bull hierarchy, including Dr. Helmut Marko, in charge of the young driver's programme, and team boss Christian Horner, has constantly referred to Lindblad as their next big bet in F1.

"Taking a win, it's just a big confidence booster. It takes away a bit of pressure, but it's not like there's no pressure because one win will not change your career. It was good to get the season started, and I'm very happy," said Lindblad.

"I think it feels good, but there's still a lot of work to be done. It was a sprint race, not a feature. It gives me confidence that I'm doing a good job and we're making steps forward. However, I'm not naive enough to think this is okay. I mean, I've still got a lot of work to be done. There's still a lot of work to be done. I'm not settling down now just because I won a race," he explained after his record-breaking feat.

Earlier this year, the youngster won the Formula Regional Oceania Championship in New Zealand, which helped him earn enough points to qualify for an FIA Super License, a prerequisite for participating in F1. He will have it once he turns 18 in August. However, in a clear sign of faith in the youngster, Red Bull has requested that the FIA fast-track his application, and the governing body is set to meet next week to determine if the exemption can be granted to him.

Apart from his sheer speed and consistent results, it is Lindblad's meteoric rise through the junior ranks that has stood out in his journey so far, despite coming from a non-racing background.

Recently, Dr Marko recalled the first time he met the youngster, who was 13 at the time, during a karting world championship event. He was impressed by his maturity and signed him up for the Red Bull Junior programme.

"If I look back, I met him first in Portimão. I met him and his father, and Arvid was leading the conversation. So that also was something which is not normal," Marko said to the Inside Line F1 podcast.

The Red Bull programme is known for being cut-throat, and Dr. Marko's reputation is one of a stern taskmaster and someone ruthless when it comes to dropping drivers who don't deliver. However, Lindblad says he doesn't feel the pressure and instead revels in it.

"I feel I'm pretty good at blocking out the noise on that side. And also, I put a lot of pressure on myself because I want to be in Formula One. That's also why Dr. Marko and I get along quite well. I think sometimes on these junior teams, it's easy to maybe lose sight of why you're there and what you're doing, because you feel the pressure from the bosses to perform. I can flip it a different way and say I'm here because they believe in me, and I want to reach Formula One, and they only want to help me get there. So I don't feel any pressure on that side," he adds.

One of the challenges of advancing through the ranks is not to stay at the same level for too long, but to continually step up. More than half of the current grid has followed the F4, F3, and F2 routes.

Seamless progress

After acing the karting level, the 17-year-old began single-seater racing properly only two years ago in F4 and has progressed seamlessly to the following levels, reaching F2 in only his third year in cars.

"I feel that in F2, of course, the second and third seasons help a lot, but I think even in the younger categories, it makes an even bigger difference. You can imagine when you're young, there's a lot more to learn. So I think that makes a big difference. I think that a second year or an extra year helps a lot," Lindblad explains. "I'm still learning massively. The step I made during the F3 season alone was huge just cause it was my second year in a car and most people are doing that second year in a car in F4, or FRECA (Formula Regional European Championship)."

Last year in the FIA F3, Lindblad finished fourth in the standings and briefly led the championship, achieving some impressive wins, including a double win at Silverstone (Sprint and Feature races). In one race that weekend, he came through the field from outside the top-10.

Speaking about the targets for the season, Lindblad said it is to start fighting for wins regularly by the second half of the season. "I think that the goal is similar to F3, to sort of learn the first couple of races. It is a big step. I'm still young and experienced and sort of just chip away at it, but by the second half of the season, I want to be challenging for wins and poles. If I'm being honest, I want to do it earlier than the second half of the season. I'm just really focused on myself and trying to keep learning, working with the team, because I believe that we can."

Shining in Spain

Cut to earlier this week, Lindblad already hit his next goal when he clinched his maiden pole position during the Spanish GP weekend in Barcelona and also managed his first feature race win. The victory has put him just eight points behind leader Alex Dunne and is in the thick of the fight for the F2 title.

In fact, a few years ago, while he was still in karts, Lindblad told current McLaren driver and title contender Lando Norris that he would be racing against him in F1 soon.

"It was quite funny," he says, recalling the incident. "I met him when he came to the kart track in 2021, and we were all racing. It was a big karting race, and he came because he was launching his own chassis. And I remember I was just there with my friend, and I saw him, and I said to my friend, I'm going to go and talk to him, and he was like 'no, you're not brave enough.' Initially, I was kind of on the edge, but then when he said that, that he almost didn't believe that I was going to do it, that almost was like motivation for me. And I don't know, I just went straight up to Lando. I just saw Lando, and I was like, 'Remember me, I'll see you in five years.' And it was meant in just like sort of a joking manner, but also with a hint of determination, saying, I'm going to be pushing hard, and I hope to do it in the future. And yeah, I have been working hard the last couple of years. I didn't leave myself a very easy timeline, because I had to do one category for every year, which is what I have done."

In a few months, Lindblad will be eligible to participate in F1 free practice sessions, in which teams are mandated to run young drivers, and will even have the opportunity to run alongside Norris and showcase his abilities behind the wheel of an F1 car.

Being part of Red Bull means he is part of a team that controls four seats in F1 with potential vacancies. But at the same time, Lindblad says that while he is aware of the opportunities, he wants to avoid dwelling too far into the future and is focused on the job at hand.

"I'm quite aware. I see the news reports that Dr. Marko and Christian Horner are mentioning me in a positive light, which is good and means they're pleased with what I'm doing. That gives me confidence and a sign that I am doing things right, and just to keep sort of working the same way."

"But I am also very aware that it can change very quickly, and them talking about me now is not going to get me to F1 next year. I try not to think about it. I just focus on the performance in F2 because I know that's what will get me to F1. I know, I'm confident that if I do well, there'll be an opportunity for me. Hopefully, I will do F2 once, and then I will be in F1 next year. And then that will be the timeline sorted. So yeah, we will see."

THE GIST

- Ever since Max Verstappen burst onto the scene as a 17-year-old, the top teams have always been in constant search for the next big thing
- In April, during the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in Jeddah, Arvid Lindblad made history by becoming the youngest driver to win an FIA Formula 2 race in the sprint race that weekend
- One of the challenges of advancing through the ranks is not to stay at the same level for too long, but to continually step up. More than half of the current grid has followed the F4, F3, and F2 routes

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Stampede victims

Divyamshi B.S., 14 Kattigenahalli, Yelahanka Bengaluru	**Akshata Pai, 26** Ravindra Nagar, Uttara Kannada	**Bhumik, 19** M.S. Ramaiah Layout, Bengaluru	**Sahana, 23** Kolar, Karnataka	**Chinmay Shetty, 19** Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru	**Manoj Kumar, 20** Nagasandra village, Tumakuru	**Shravan K.T., 20** Kurutahalli, Chickballapur	**Shivalinga, 17** Honigeri, Yadgir	**Poornachandra, 20** Rayasamudra, Mandya	**Kamakshi Devi, 29** Udumala, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	**Prajwal, 22** Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru

Source: Petition submitted to High Court of Karnataka

From Page One

HC poses nine questions to govt. on stampede

When the Bench asked the government whether there was a standard operating procedure (SOP) to regulate such events, Mr. Shetty admitted that the government has no SOP to manage and control large events of this nature while assuring the court that it would come out with a SOP.

The government, in a statement to the court, said that four persons died near Gate-7, two near Gate-6, one near Gate-1, and four near Gates 17-21 in the stampede. Of the total 56 injured persons, 51 had sustained minor injuries, three with grievous and two with moderate injuries, the government stated. Also, the government said that it filed a First Information Report on June 5 Thursday on the incident and referred it to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for investigation through a special investigation team.

What the HC asked

- When and who has taken the decision to hold the victory celebration and in what manner?
- What steps were taken to regulate the traffic?
- What steps were taken to regulate the public/crowd?
- Was any assessment made in advance on the number of people who may be present?
- What medical and other facilities were arranged at the venue?
- Were persons injured given immediate medical attention by experts at the venue? If not why?
- How much time was taken to take the injured to the hospitals?
- Was any SOP formulated to manage a crowd of 50,000 and above in any sport event and celebrations of this nature?
- Was permission sought to organise the event?

Dayananda suspended; RCB booked

The State government also told the High Court that the probe into the case would be handed over to a Special Investigation Team (SIT) in the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

Addressing a press conference after a special meeting of senior Ministers, Mr. Siddaramaiah said that the stampede issue was discussed at length at the Cabinet meeting and "prima facie dereliction of duty and negligence of police officials was noted and a decision to suspend them was taken." He also said police officials had been directed to take stringent action and arrest representatives of RCB, KSCA, and DNA Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.

FIR blames RCB, KSCA

According to the complaint filed by Girish A.K., police inspector of Cubbon Park station, KSCA had approached them on June 3, even before the final was held, seeking permission to hold a celebratory event at the stadium on June 4 evening if RCB won the match.

The police claimed that they denied permission citing concerns over large crowds and security concerns. It further claimed that KSCA was, however, insistent on holding the event. Following this, the police made arrangements for adequate security.

B. Dayananda

However, the complaint said that RCB team management "unilaterally" announced a victory parade in the city around the stadium on social media on the morning of June 4, despite the city police turning down permission. The complaint said that this led to large crowds gathering on the streets.

According to the complaint, the police had made elaborate security in and around the stadium on Tuesday night where thousands of fans gathered to celebrate the RCB victory in the final match.

Crowding and stampede

"Lakhs of people gathered at the stadium for the programme and the crowd became uncontrollable due to the confusion of organisers on how to allow the people into the stadium which has a seating capacity of around 35,000. The stampede incident and chaos occurred at gate no. 2, 2A, 6, 7, 15,17, 18,20, and 21, resulting in the death of 11 people and injuring 56. The gathering of lakhs of people outside the stadium is due to the RCB announcement at their official website about the free entry pass distribution, leading to the incident," the complainant stated.

The police have charged the accused under Sections 105, 115, 118, 190, 132, and 125.

Apart from Mr. Dayananda those who have been suspended include Vikash Kumar Viskash, Additional Commissioner of Police (West), Bengaluru city; Shekhar H.T., Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central Division), Bengaluru city; Balakrishna, Assistant Commissioner of Police (Cubbon Park sub-division), Bengaluru city, and Girish A.K., police inspector, Cubbon Park Police Station, Bengaluru city.

Grieving families recall day of horror

For many families across Karnataka, the day will now remain etched in memory not for celebration, but for the devastating loss

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Gutted: Grieving family members of a victim of the stampede in Bengaluru on Thursday. PTI, AFP

It was supposed to be a moment of joy and celebration as a sea of red-and-gold converged on Bengaluru's iconic M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday, to mark Royal Challengers Bengaluru's maiden IPL title win. But the festivities ended in heartbreak as a deadly stampede left 11 people dead and dozens more injured.

For many families across Karnataka, the day will now remain etched in memory for their devastating loss. Prajwal G., a 22-year-old employee at a private firm, was among the victims. A loyal RCB fan, he had been out the previous night, rejoicing with friends. His mother, Pavithra, begged him not to attend the stadium event. But like lakhs of other fans, he didn't want to miss the moment. "By 5.30 p.m., I received a call. I rushed to the police station and then to Vydehi Hospital. There were unidentified bodies there. I went in hoping it wouldn't be my son... my world collapsed as I saw Prajwal's body." Laying the blame squarely on the authorities, she said, "The government killed my son."

A young life lost

Among the youngest killed in the incident was Divyamshi B.S., 14. A ninth grader and an ardent admirer of Virat Kohli, she had pleaded with her family to take her to the stadium. "She loved cricket. She was a dancer.... She wanted to become a veterinary doctor," her mother, Ashwini U.L., said. "She just wanted to see her hero Virat Kohli up close."

Manoj Kumar, 20, was a BBA student at a private college. His father, Devaraj N.T., a pani puri vendor, was watching television when news of the stampede flashed across the screen. He immediately tried to contact his son. "Someone else picked up the phone. I sensed something was wrong, and then the police called and asked me to come to Bowring Hospital. I didn't have the courage to see his body. He had gone with two of his friends," Mr. Devaraj said.

For Poornachandra, 20, the visit to the stadium was spontaneous. A civil engineer working in Mysuru, he was in Bengaluru to meet a potential bride. "After meeting the girl's family, he went to the stadium. We didn't even know he was going," said his father, R.B. Chandru, a resident of K.R. Pete in Mandya. "By 6 p.m., we received the call..."

Bhumik Lakshman, 19, didn't inform his father before heading to the stadium with friends. "At around 3 p.m., he made a video call to his mother and showed her the crowd and celebrations. Later, we heard there was a stampede. I kept trying to reach him. He never answered," said his father, Lakshman D.H., a resident of M.S. Ramaiah Layout in Bengaluru.

Shivalinga Chandappa, 17, had come to Bengaluru only to collect his transfer certificate. A native of Yadgir, he had just finished some academic formalities and decided to stop by the stadium. His father, Honnappa, a labourer from Honigeri village, was unaware of his son's whereabouts. "We got the call in the evening. Shivalinga was no more," he said.

Kamakshi Devi, 29, a techie from Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and working in Bengaluru, was a passionate RCB fan. She had come with two colleagues. "We had a cousins' get-together just two days ago. She was there with us," her cousin Veerabahu Tamizh Selvan recalled. "And now she is gone. Her friends suffered fractures but survived," he said.

Sahana Rajesh, 23, a software engineer from Kolar district, had dreams for herself and her younger sister. Her father Rajesh said, "She didn't tell us she was going to the event. She wanted to support her sister in becoming a doctor. Now she's no more."

'I lost her hand...'

Among the most gut-wrenching stories is that of Akshata Pai, 26, a chartered accountant from Uttara Kannada. She and her husband Ashay Ranjan had both taken half-day leaves to attend the celebrations after seeing RCB's Instagram post.

"We were excited. We held hands as the crowd surged near Gate 17," Mr. Ranjan said. "Suddenly, people started pushing. We fell. We screamed. Someone rescued me, but I lost her hand."

Shravan K.T., 20, was a second-year dental student from Chikkaballapur. He hadn't informed his parents about his plans to attend the event. His friend, Vinuth, said, "He was mad about cricket and RCB. They never knew he had gone to the stadium."

But not all who went to the stadium were cricket fans. Chinmay Shetty, a 19-year-old engineering student from Doddakallasandra, wasn't particularly passionate about the sport. But she joined her classmates for the outing. She hailed from Mangaluru and had spoken to her father just a few hours before tragedy struck.

"She called me around 1.30 p.m. and said she was heading to the stadium. At 5.30 p.m. I got the call that she had died in the stampede. What will I do with the compensation the government is giving?" asked her father, Karunakara Shetty.

BMRCL clocks record ridership of 9.66 lakh commuters on Wednesday

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To manage the overwhelming rush, BMRCL allowed commuters to enter without scanning QR code tickets, smart cards, or tokens.
K. MURALI KUMAR

On the day a stampede occurred outside M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru during RCB's victory celebrations, killing 11 and leaving at least 56 injured, the Namma Metro witnessed unprecedented footfall. Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) recorded its highest-ever single-day ridership on June 4, with a total of 9,66,732 commuters boarding the metro.

Swelling crowds

The fan frenzy that gripped the city saw lakhs thronging the streets and public spaces, especially in the Central Business District (CBD), eventually resulting in a stampede that left 11 dead. The chaos prompted heavy reliance on the metro to manage the swelling crowds on June 4. According to BMRCL officials, Cubbon Park, Vidhana Soudha, M. G. Road, and Sir M. Visvesvaraya Central College metro stations – all located in the heart of the CBD – reported a sharp spike in usage.

According to BMRCL, Line 1 (Purple Line) recorded the highest passenger traffic with 4,78,334 boardings, while Line 2 (Green Line) saw 2,84,674 commuters. The Kempegowda interchange station at Majestic alone handled 2,03,724 passengers. On June 4, amid the ongoing chaos near Chinnaswamy stadium and Vidhana Soudha, the BMRCL announced that trains would skip stops at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Vidhana Soudha and Cubbon Park metro stations.

This led to a spillover of crowds at adjacent stations such as Sir M. Visvesvaraya Central College, M. G. Road, and Trinity, with the ripple effect extending all the way to Swami Vivekananda Road station. With metro access restricted near the core area, many commuters were seen walking several kilometres from the stadium vicinity to reach operational metro stations.

To manage the overwhelming rush, BMRCL allowed commuters to enter without scanning QR code tickets, smart cards, or tokens, which resulted in bottlenecks and congestion near the entry barricades. This indicates that ridership could have been much more than what was recorded. Several videos that surfaced on social media showed passengers jumping over fare gates to board the trains without paying for their rides.

BJP demands resignation of CM, Dy. CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra with Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok, and Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy at a press conference in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Upping the ante against the Congress government on the stampede that claimed 11 lives and left at least 56 persons injured during RCB's victory celebrations in Bengaluru, the Opposition BJP on Thursday demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and Home Minister G. Parameshwara on moral grounds.

Addressing a press conference here, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra criticised Mr. Siddaramaiah for allegedly evading responsibility by claiming that it was an event that had been organised by the Karnataka State Cricket Association and attempting to cover up his government's lapses.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok also demanded that both the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister resign. Referring to the RCB's catchline *Ee Sala kappu nammadu* (This time cup is ours), Mr. Ashok remarked: "*Cup nammadu, thappu yaradu*? (Cup is ours, whose is the mistake?)

"The investigation must be conducted under the supervision of a High Court judge, and an SIT should be formed for this purpose. The report must be submitted directly to the High Court. Justice must be delivered for all these deaths, and those responsible must be punished," he said.

DKS breaks down over deaths; HDK demands his ouster from Cabinet

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar gets emotional while addressing the press on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A day after the death of 11 persons in the stampede during RCB's victory celebrations in the city, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday broke down before the media, while speaking over the episode. The Opposition mocked him for shedding tears after allowing the tragedy to strike.

Union Minister and JD (S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy demanded his ouster from the State Cabinet, accusing him of being responsible for the episode.

"The Opposition is politicking. But I am grief-stricken over the death of children," the Deputy Chief Minister said, weeping, while interacting with mediapersons in Bengaluru. "Those children had a bright future ahead of them. This incident has tarnished the reputation of Bengaluru and Karnataka. We have taken this incident seriously, and we will rectify the shortcomings. This is a lesson for us," Mr. Shivakumar said.

He said the City Police Commissioner had told them that the programme in the stadium will be confined to just 10 minutes. "I had no plans to go to the stadium earlier. However, upon being told by the Police Commissioner, I rushed to the venue. Even the KSCA president and secretary could not go to the stadium, and I had to take them in my car. We spoke to the RCB management to keep the programme short."

He said this was a time for mourning and not for scoring political brownie points. Launching a counterattack on the Opposition, Mr. Shivakumar said,"I can list out all the tragedies that took place during the BJP and JD(S) regime. But I don't want to stoop to their level. I will talk about such incidents during the BJP and JD(S) regimes in the Legislature session. I am not going to talk about what happened during the death of Kannada actor Rajkumar (during JD (S)-BJP regime)."

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy blamed Mr. Shivakumar for the tragedy and said the Chief Minister should sack him if he had any courage. "The DCM's hunger for publicity even amidst the tragic deaths and his rude behaviour at the programme was the height of insensitivity." He described the entire programme in front of Vidhana Soudha as a "show of *daadaagiri* (bullying) by Mr. Shivakumar." Even after coming to know about deaths, he participated in the victory programme, claimed Mr. Kumaraswamy.

Taking care: People wearing masks near a hospital in Visakhapatnam on May 30, 2025. Doctors said that at present everyone should focus on personal protection. K..R. DEEPAK

Taking stock of COVID-19 vaccines

As cases rise in India, doctors across the board say that, at present, they see no need for a mass-vaccination drive; the ICMR has maintained that the new cases have mostly been mild with reported symptoms akin to those of the common cold or seasonal flu; experts stress on the need to practice personal hygiene

The Hindu Bureau

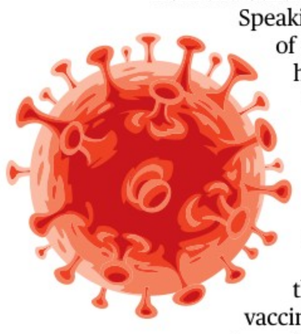
Over the past few weeks, headlines around India and Southeast Asia have centred around a virus that the world has wanted to forget: COVID-19. At first, an uptick in cases in Hong Kong, Singapore and other parts of the region caused concern. Gradually though, India too, witnessed a surge in cases, with numbers as of Thursday standing at 4,866, and fatalities at 51.

Doctors and experts have said time and again that there is no reason to panic – spikes and dips in COVID-19 cases are expected; the virus they say, is co-circulating with other seasonal infections and no major waves are expected. Misinformation, in fact, is harder to battle, they point out.

Residents however, are raising questions about the COVID-19 vaccines: it may be recalled that India launched the world's largest COVID-19 immunisation drive in January 2021. To date, over 220 crore doses of vaccines have been administered in the country as per the Co-WIN dashboard. These were primarily of the two vaccines available then, AstraZeneca's Covishield and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin.

What is the vaccine situation now?

Rajiv Bahl, Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the country's nodal scientific body, has said there is absolutely no need to initiate mass booster doses for COVID-19 vaccination at present, and neither is there a direction from the Central government for this.



Speaking about the rising number of cases in India, Dr. Bahl, however, noted that individual doctors could recommend booster doses to patients on a case-to-case basis, depending on the needs of individuals.

He further explained that the need for mass vaccination, while not felt at present, could arise, with perhaps a mutation in the virus or its spread. "For that, India already has the capacity to scale up production and provide for the general public. We have done this before and there is no need to panic," he said, reiterating that as of now there was no need for individuals to rush in to get a booster dose.

Since vaccines used in 2021 and 2022 have now fallen into disuse and expired, there are no stocks at present, a government official said, adding that the government could direct manufacturers to produce more stocks when necessary. Most States, including Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and West Bengal, have no stocks of the vaccine at present.

Variants driving the spike

As of now, the variants of COVID-19 doing the rounds in India are descendants of the Omicron variant, first reported in November 2021. The emerging sub-variants – NB.1.8.1 and LF.7 – that are driving the current COVID surge are descendants of JN.1, a sub-lineage of the Omicron BA.2.86 variant.

In Kerala, for instance, a senior Health Department official said: "Almost all of the samples sent for whole genome sequencing from the State have shown that the circulating virus variant is LF.1, one of the descendants of Omicron, the immune evasiveness of which is quite well known." These sub-variants, doctors say, are, so far, causing mild illnesses.

P. Senthur Nambi, senior consultant, Infectious Diseases, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, said that most of the COVID-19 patients he had seen so far have done well. "Most of them had only an upper respiratory infection. Gone are the days when COVID-19 affected the lungs causing pneumonia and breathing difficulties. These patients were managed based on their symptoms and most of them did not require any COVID-specific antiviral medications. Prior exposure to the infection, the effects of the vaccines taken or a combination of both factors with vaccine-induced antibodies could be playing a protective role," he explained.

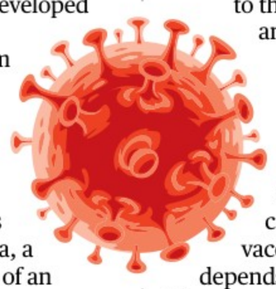
Cases this time around have mostly been mild, the ICMR has maintained, with reported symptoms akin to those of the common cold or seasonal flu. "The key difference with these new strains," said Sujan Bardhan, consultant (TB & chest diseases), Narayana Hospital, RN Tagore Hospital, Kolkata, "is their speed, not their severity. Hospitals are well-prepared and the healthcare system remains under no immediate strain. Nonetheless, the importance of basic preventive measures cannot be overstated."

Are vaccines needed at present?

Doctors across the board say that at present, they see no need for a mass-vaccination drive.

"By the time Omicron ran its course, almost all of our population had been exposed to the virus. Even when this antibody protection wanes, the long-term immune memory remains. This innate immunity plus the vaccine-derived immunity through good coverage of the initial two doses means that most people have strong hybrid immunity against COVID-19," a Kerala Health Department official said, adding that the previous vaccines may not even be very effective against the Omicron variants – they would, however, offer protection against serious forms of the disease.

Though two indigenously developed nasal vaccines specifically targeting Omicron variant from Bharat Biotech and Indian Immunologicals as well as another indigenous mRNA vaccine for the same variant were made available in the Indian market, the uptake was low, doctors said. Kiran Madala, a Hyderabad-based doctor, part of an international group of genetic epidemiologists under the COVID Treatment Exchange Organisation, said the current World Health Organization guidelines recommend vaccines primarily for individuals above the age of 70 to 80; those who are immunocompromised; and patients with multiple comorbidities. Children, especially those aged two to six, do not need vaccination unless they have underlying health issues or are immunosuppressed.



Dr. Nambi in Chennai said some patients, those who have travel obligations, have requested the vaccines, but none are available at present. "But I wish that there was an option of vaccination, not for the general population in large but for two subsets of patient groups in whom the infection could cause problems," he said. The first group of patients are those who have not received any COVID-19 vaccine due to various factors and had no COVID-19 infection in the past. So, they will neither have natural immunity or vaccine-induced immunity. Though a weakened virus, it could cause complications such as pneumonia leading to hospitalisation, especially if they are over 65 years of age, he said. The second subset of patients are those with underlying comorbidities such as heart ailments, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease with poor lung function and immune-compromised persons, including those who have undergone organ transplants. "Other coronaviruses such as the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome did not last long, but we are still talking about COVID since the end of 2019. So, a vaccine will be beneficial for these two groups of persons in the long run from the public health perspective. But this being a mutating virus, we will need to modify the vaccines on a regular basis," Dr. Nambi observed.

T. Jacob John, retired professor of clinical virology at Christian Medical College, Vellore, also said that the elderly and immunocompromised people needed to be vaccinated again, irrespective of whether they were fully vaccinated (two doses and a booster) or had been exposed to the virus earlier. "These people are vulnerable even with mild variants as their immune systems are weak, and they are at greater risk of complications."

State governments, however, have taken a more cautious stance: "Whether vaccination is required or not depends on many factors," said T. S. Selvavinayagam, T.N. Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine. "We need to study the epidemiology of the current cases before commenting on the requirement for vaccination now." Kerala has said it was "not advocating for or against COVID booster shots" because of the lack of epidemiological data that booster doses offered enhanced protection against emerging immune-evasive variants.

What next?

The Delhi High Court, earlier, directed the Centre to submit a thorough status report detailing its actions regarding the policy for sample collection, collection centres, and transportation of samples. It also stressed urgency to finalise Standard Operating Procedures.

While preparedness of health systems remains crucial, doctors said that at present everyone should focus on personal protection, with special care being given to vulnerable sections of the population. As the virus continues to adapt, so must we, Dr. Bardhan said. Staying informed and following trusted health sources, personal protection and hygiene measures, avoiding crowded places when possible or masking up, refraining from going outdoors when ill and maintaining a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle could help navigate this phase and any more to come.

(Compiled by Zubeda Hamid with inputs from C. Maya in Kerala, Serena Josephine M. in Chennai, Bindu Shajan Perappadan in Delhi, Afshan Yasmeen in Bengaluru, Shrabana Chatterjee in Kolkata and Siddharth Kumar Singh in Hyderabad.)
(health@thehindu.co.in)

THE GIST

- Doctors says spikes and dips in COVID-19 cases are expected; the virus they say, is co-circulating with other seasonal infections and no major waves are expected. Misinformation, in fact, is harder to battle, they point out
- As of now, the variants of COVID-19 doing the rounds in India are descendants of the Omicron variant, first reported in November 2021. The emerging sub-variants — NB.1.8.1 and LF.7 — that are driving the current COVID surge are descendants of JN.1, a sub-lineage of the Omicron BA.2.86 variant
- While preparedness of health systems remains crucial, doctors said that at present everyone should focus on personal protection, with special care being given to vulnerable sections of the population, including elderly citizens, young children, pregnant women and those with immune-compromised systems or chronic illnesses

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THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Anyone can develop an allergy. Here is a quiz to test your knowledge on allergies.

Athira Elssa Johnson

QUESTION 1
Allergies are caused by an overreaction of the immune system to substances that are usually harmless. Is the statement true or false?

QUESTION 2
The hormone ____ is commonly used as a first-line emergency treatment for anaphylaxis.

QUESTION 3
Which antibody is primarily involved in allergic responses?

QUESTION 4
What type of medication is commonly used to relieve mild allergy symptoms such as sneezing and itching?

QUESTION 5
Name one common environmental allergen that can trigger respiratory allergic reactions like asthma or rhinitis.

QUESTION 6
Muscle cramps, runny nose, joint pain and nausea. Which of the four is a symptom of allergic rhinitis?

QUESTION 7
What is the severe symptom of allergy ?

QUESTION 8
Can allergies be cured permanently?

QUESTION 9
What does "hypoallergenic products" mean ?

QUESTION 10
Name any three types of allergy tests.

Visual Question: The term "allergy" originates from Ancient Greek words. This Viennese paediatrician, in the picture (right) introduced the term in 1906. Identify the man. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Questions and Answers to the previous month's quiz:
1. What is the scientific name of the H1N1 virus? **Ans: Influenza A virus (H1N1 subtype)** 2. What is the primary mode of transmission of the H1N1 virus? **Ans: Airborne droplets** 3. H1N1 primarily affects only humans and does not spread among animals. True or False ? **Ans: False** 4. How can you prevent the spread of H1N1 ? Mention three important measures. **Ans: To prevent the spread of H1N1,measures include frequent handwashing, practicing good respiratory hygiene, and getting vaccinated against influenza.** 5. Many H1N1 influenza pandemics have occurred over the years. **Ans: There have been three H1N1 influenza pandemics** 6. H1N1 stands for Hemagglutinin (H) -- that makes the virus attach to host cells and ____ , that makes the virus spread. **Ans: Neuraminidase** 7. Does the flu vaccine provide lifetime immunity against H1N1? **Ans: No** 8. Which vaccine provides protection against the H1N1 virus? **Ans: The seasonal flu vaccine** 9. Is H1N1 still a threat today? **Ans: Yes**

City police chief failed to reject permission in writing, says State govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the order issued suspending the Commissioner of Police and four other officers over the stampede and 11 deaths at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on June 4, the State government said: "Despite the CEO of RCB intimating Commissioner of Police on June 3 about holding the victory parade and celebrations on June 4, the office of Police Commissioner failed to give a written reply to the organisers about rejecting the permission on the grounds of lack of time to prepare for such a huge event." The suspension order further said, "The RCB and the Cricket Association went ahead to tweet about the celebrations and invited the fans to M Chinnaswamy Stadium without going through the usual practice of issuing tickets or passes."

The order said that despite having the knowledge of these developments, steps were not taken to either have the event organised systematically or give adequate information to the public. Also, the higher-ups were not informed about it, it added.

Sources in the State Cabinet said that the top leadership of the government was reportedly unaware of the event at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium till the last minute.

'Everything that could go wrong went wrong'

According to police sources, a perfect storm of circumstances converged to trigger one of the most tragic incidents in the country's cricketing history — the Bengaluru stampede

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Everything that could go wrong seems to have gone wrong at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here, where lakhs converged to catch a glimpse of the RCB team on Wednesday afternoon.

Even as the city police claimed that the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) conducted the event at the stadium despite being denied police permission, it has come to light that the security deployment at the venue was inadequate and senior officials in charge were not present on site when the stampede occurred, sources said.

A scene at one of the gates of the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium after the crowd tried to gain forcible entry into it during the RCB victory celebration in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Two permissions

In a *suo motu* FIR registered at Cubbon Park Police Station on Thursday, the police claimed that on the evening of June 3, the KSCA authorities approached them seeking permission to hold a celebratory event if RCB won the IPL title, but their request was denied. Similarly, the State government, on the evening of June 3, sought police permission to hold a felicitation for the team on the grand steps of the Vidhana Soudha if RCB won the championship, and it was granted.

The police, however, said that despite the denial of permission, RCB management took to social media on Wednesday morning announcing a victory parade, exhorting fans to congregate.

Police deployment

Meanwhile, in a submission made by the State government to the High Court during the hearing of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition, the government said that as against a usual deployment of 789 personnel at the stadium during IPL cricket matches, they had deployed 1,318 personnel, including four companies of the Karnataka State Reserve Police Force (KSRP).

While the deployment was over 67% higher than usual, it proved to be woefully inadequate compared to the strength of the crowd that had gathered.

Usually, a match has a crowd size of around 35,000. However, the crowd at the stadium on Wednesday is estimated to be around 2.5 lakh.

Around 3.30 p.m., the stadium gates were opened and people were let in, but the gates were shut once the stadium was full. Lakhs of people demanded that they be let inside a stadium with a seating capacity of only 32,000, causing a commotion that further led to a stampede.

When crowds merged

"There was ample scope to mobilise more forces from within Bengaluru and also the surrounding districts to be deployed at the stadium, but it was not done. The size of the crowd that gathered at the stadium was clearly underestimated. Moreover, the crowd that gathered in front of the Vidhana Soudha moved and joined those around the stadium. Ideally, there should have been barricading and the two crowds should not have been allowed to merge," said a senior police official who was not part of the arrangements on Wednesday.

Many senior police officers have also been puzzled as to why there was no bid to disperse the crowd around the stadium that was thrusting at the closed stadium gates.

Officials absent

Multiple sources within the city police stated that the senior official responsible for security at the stadium was not present at the scene when the stampede occurred, but was instead at the Vidhana Soudha.

"With no senior jurisdictional officers on the spot, a decision to lathicharge and disperse the mob was not taken in time," a senior official said.

The magisterial inquiry into the lapses in security will now ascertain the specific duties assigned to officers, their locations throughout the day, and the discharge of their duties, according to sources.

Stampede and deaths: Who is accountable?

S.T. Ramesh

GUEST COLUMN

On June 4, 2025, a tragedy struck Bengaluru when a stampede at the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) stadium claimed the lives of 11 Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) supporters and left at least 56 hospitalised. What should have been a moment of jubilation turned into one of mourning. Predictably, a magisterial inquiry has been ordered, but experience shows little faith remains in such mechanisms. Rarely are corrective actions taken or accountability fixed, let alone exemplary punishment meted out.

Unilateral decision

At the root of this calamity lies the RCB management's unilateral decision to announce a victory parade via social media, without consulting the State government or the Commissioner of Police. Once the social media post went viral, thousands of fans thronged the stadium and the Vidhana Soudha area, making any attempt by the authorities to countermand the announcement both futile and potentially more chaotic.

Cricket in India is more than just a sport – it is a religion, a craze, a passion. As such, cricketing bodies like the BCCI, IPL governing council, State associations, and franchises like RCB wield extraordinary influence. RCB, valued at $110 million and boasting 21 million Instagram followers, is the most popular franchise in the IPL. The BCCI earned ₹5,761 crore in surplus IPL revenue in 2023-24, which was 59% of its total income. This financial muscle translates into unchecked power. But does this mean they operate above public accountability?

Let's not forget that RCB is a franchise – a commercial entity that happens to be headquartered in Bengaluru and owned by United Spirits, a city-based company. It has little organic connection to Karnataka, apart from its name and the presence of just two players from the State. That being the case, how did the State government become a stakeholder in hosting celebrations, and why was the Vidhana Soudha – the seat of governance – chosen as a venue?

Power and fandom

Naturally, the fans responded in droves, and it's reported that the stretch from Vidhana Soudha to KSCA stadium – a 2-km corridor – was a sea of humanity. It is disturbing to note that multiple senior government leaders reportedly brought their grandchildren for photo-ops with RCB celebrities at such a volatile venue. The symbolism of power and fandom merging at the cost of public safety is deeply troubling.

As for the police, their hands were tied. On the night of June 3-4, RCB clinched their victory well past midnight, sparking celebrations across the city. With crackers going off and crowds pouring into the streets, the city police were already stretched to their limits. After a sleepless night, many personnel likely returned home on the morning of June 4, unaware of the storm brewing.

The police usually prepare a detailed 'bandobust scheme' for major events – assessing crowd volumes, assigning officer duties, and planning for crime prevention, law and order, traffic, and emergency responses. But such planning requires time and coordination. The surprise announcement by RCB management made all this impossible. It is also reported that there was a suggestion to hold the celebration on Sunday, June 8, but it was rejected – perhaps in haste, perhaps in arrogance.

RCB's victory was indeed hard-fought and deserving. But this celebration-turned-tragedy has left a deep scar – not just on the memories of fans but on the credibility of the government and cricketing authorities alike. No amount of compensation can restore the lives lost. And unless real accountability is enforced, the cycle of tragedy and inaction will only continue.

(The author is a die-hard cricket fan and former Director-General and Inspector-General of Police)

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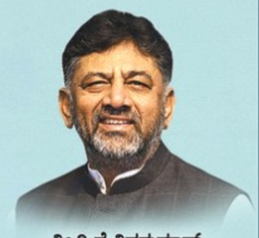


ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಶೋಷಿತರ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಹರಿಕಾರ
ನೊಂದವರ ನಂದಾದೀಪ ಧೀಮಂತ ನಾಯಕ
ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ನಿರಂತರ ಹೋರಾಡಿದ ಅದಮ್ಯ ಚೇತನಕ್ಕೆ ನಾಡಿನ ನಮನ

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಮಾಜಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸು ರವರ
43ನೇ ಪುಣ್ಯ ಸ್ಮರಣೆ

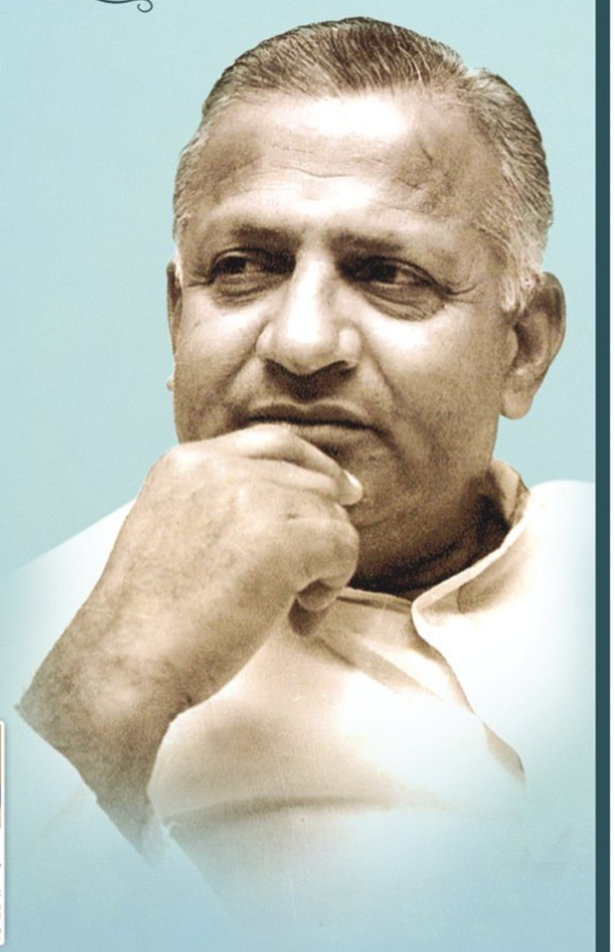
ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸು ರವರ ಪ್ರತಿಮೆಗೆ ಮಾಲಾರ್ಪಣೆ

ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ.ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವರಾಜ್ ಎಸ್. ತಂಗಡಗಿ
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ,
ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಗಣ್ಯರಿಂದ

ದಿನಾಂಕ : 06-06-2025, ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ
ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ : 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
ಸ್ಥಳ : ವಿಧಾನಸೌಧದ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ದ್ವಾರ ಮುಂಭಾಗ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು



ಮಾನ್ಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿವರಾಜ್ ಎಸ್. ತಂಗಡಗಿ, ಅವರು ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು.

ಅಕ್ರಂ ಪಾಷ, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.,
ಆಯುಕ್ತರು
ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಆದರದ ಸ್ವಾಗತ

ಸಂಜಯ್. ಬಿ. ಶೆಟ್ಟಣ್ಣವರ, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.,
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು
ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of people affected by floods in Arunachal Pradesh

33,000 At least 12 people have lost their lives due to landslides and floods triggered by monsoon rain this year, while search operations are under way for a missing person, a report from the State Emergency Operation Centre said. PTI

Amount approved for Pakistan's National Development Budget

4,224 in billion rupees. Pakistan's National Economic Council chaired by PM Shehbaz Sharif, has unanimously approved the ₹4,224 billion national development budget along with 4.2 per cent GDP growth target for the financial year 25-26. PTI

Increase in severity of droughts over the past 40 years: study

40 in per cent. Rising temperatures are increasing the atmosphere's 'thirst', making droughts around the world 40% more severe over the past 40 years, according to a new study. It explained that the atmosphere is becoming warmer, increasing its capacity to hold moisture. PTI

Shortage in global expenditure on marine conservation

10 in per cent. Nations are spending less than 10% of what is needed to meet a global target on marine conservation, NGOs said on Thursday. In 2022, nearly 200 countries agreed to designate 30% of the world's oceans as protected areas by 2030, but so far, just 8.4% are covered. AFP

Number of Americans filing for jobless benefits last week

2.4 in lakh. Filings for U.S. unemployment benefits rose to their highest level in eight months last week but remain historically low. New applications rose by 8,000 to 247,000 for the week ending May 31, the Labour Department said on Thursday. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Is IBC an effective resolution tool?

Why was the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code introduced in 2016? Has IBC changed borrower behaviour and credit discipline? What are the key challenges affecting IBC's effectiveness? What does the Bhushan Steel verdict mean for resolution certainty?

EXPLAINER

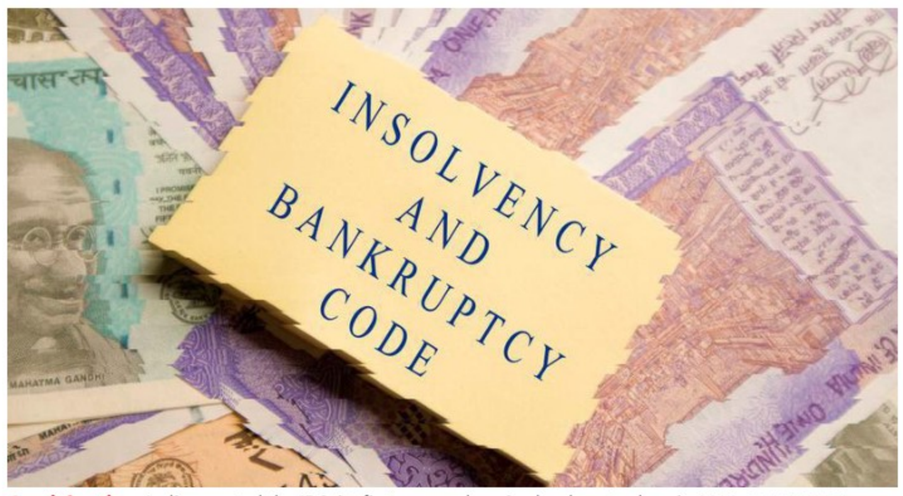
Sanjay Vijayakumar

The story so far:
More than eight years have passed since the enactment of India's Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). According to data from the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), creditors have realised ₹3.89 lakh crore under the framework, with a recovery rate of over 32.8% against admitted claims.

Why was the IBC enacted?
India enacted the IBC, its first comprehensive bankruptcy law, in 2016 to improve the overall corporate insolvency resolution process. Shifting control from debtors to creditors, the IBC introduced a time-bound resolution mechanism to streamline bankruptcy proceedings, reduce judicial delays, and improve creditor recoveries. According to current provisions, a maximum timeline of 330 days is allowed to find a resolution for a company admitted into the insolvency resolution process. Otherwise, the company goes into liquidation.

Is IBC a preferred route for debt recovery?
As per the Reserve Bank of India report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India released in December 2024, the IBC emerged as the dominant recovery route, accounting for 48% of all recoveries made by banks in the Financial Year 2023-24. The realisation under IBC is more than 170.1% as against the liquidation value. Resolution plans, on average, are yielding 93.41% of the fair value of the Corporate Debtors (CDs), IBBI said.

Further, 1,276 cases have been settled through appeal, review, or settlement, and 1,154 cases have been withdrawn under section 12A. The Code has referred 2,758 companies for liquidation, as per IBBI data. Nearly 10 companies are being resolved against five going into liquidation.



Crucial action: India enacted the IBC, its first comprehensive bankruptcy law, in 2016. GETTY IMAGES

Has IBC been an effective recovery mechanism?
Akshat Khetan, Founder, AU Corporate Advisory and Legal Services, pointed out that IBC has changed the underlying credit culture. As the Supreme Court once observed, "the defaulter's paradise is lost" and the Code has created a credible threat that ensures timely repayment.

On the recovery rate of 32.8%, Mr. Khetan pointed out that it must be interpreted in light of the distressed nature of the assets that come into the IBC process, often after years of erosion.

As the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal has rightly remarked in one of its rulings, "IBC is not a recovery mechanism; it is a resolution framework." Compared to legacy systems, where recovery rates were often below 20% with timelines extending into decades, a 32.8% realisation is a leap forward, he said.

The provisions of the IBC have prompted debtors to take early action in distress situations, marking a shift in their behaviour. National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) data show that 30,310 cases were settled prior to admission, covering underlying defaults worth ₹13.78 lakh crore till December 2024.

A study by the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, said IBC has injected discipline in the credit allocation process and has prompted borrowers to adhere to stipulated payment schedules. The gross non-performing assets of the scheduled commercial banks have declined from a peak of 11.2% in March 2018 to 2.8% in March 2024. A part of that reduction is attributable to resolution processes enabled under IBC, it said.

The study also indicated a 3% reduction in the cost of debt for distressed firms post-IBC, compared to non-distressed firms, indicating an improved credit environment for distressed firms. The IBC has had a positive impact on corporate governance, reflected in the increased proportion of independent directors on the boards of companies resolved under the Code.

What are the major challenges?
In a recent report, India Ratings and Research said that judicial delays and post-resolution uncertainties continue to affect confidence in the IBC framework.

Even when resolution applicants are ready and the Committee of Creditors has granted approval, delays at the NCLT continue to push recovery timelines. In several cases, such delays result in extended litigation or failed implementation, increasing the risk of liquidation for a viable asset that requires timely execution, it said.

The future insolvencies also raise questions about the Code's readiness to handle non-traditional enterprise defaults. While the IBC is legally broad enough to accommodate various resolution strategies, key commercial elements such as intellectual property valuation, treatment of employee dues, and tech continuity require a clearer treatment under the framework to make it future-ready, India Ratings said.

To enhance its effectiveness, India must invest in strengthening tribunal infrastructure, allow for pre-packaged insolvency, and establish jurisprudential guardrails to protect *bona fide* commercial decisions from post-resolution uncertainty, Mr. Khetan said.

Does the SC verdict on Bhushan Steel pose a challenge to IBC?
The recent developments in the Bhushan Power and Steel Ltd. case have reignited concerns around the finality of resolution outcomes and the predictability of the framework.

While the decision upholds compliance standards, its timing and implications highlight the need for judicial clarity and faster adjudication to sustain investor confidence in the process in the long term, India Ratings said.

By questioning a transaction that had been closed and operational for years, it risks unsettling the core principle of commercial certainty. If resolution applicants fear judicial reversals even after significant investment, they may hesitate to bid, undermining the IBC's very purpose. The Bhushan verdict thus underscores the need for legal sanctity once a resolution plan is approved and implemented, Mr. Khetan said.

The IBC is not merely a piece of economic legislation, it is the backbone of India's credit ecosystem. Its future lies in striking a fine balance between judicial oversight and economic pragmatism. As India aspires to become a $5 trillion economy, robust and predictable insolvency mechanisms are indispensable. The Code must remain nimble, continually evolving to meet emerging realities while ensuring that commercial wisdom is not second-guessed endlessly, he said.

THE GIST

- The IBC, enacted in 2016, introduced a time-bound mechanism shifting control from debtors to creditors, with a 330-day limit to resolve insolvency cases.
- It has changed the underlying credit culture by injecting discipline in credit allocation, prompting early action by borrowers, and reducing gross NPAs from 11.2% (2018) to 2.8% (2024).
- Despite rescuing companies and emerging as the dominant recovery route, the IBC faces judicial delays, post-resolution uncertainty, and concerns over handling new-age business models.

What is new in Ladakh's govt. job reservation policy?

What lies ahead for Ladakh's demand for Statehood and autonomy?

Vijaita Singh

The story so far:
On June 3, President Droupadi Murmu notified four Regulations for the Union Territory (U.T.) of Ladakh, defining new policies on reservation, languages, domiciles, and composition of hill councils for Ladakh, which became a Union Territory in 2019. The notified regulations were The Ladakh Official Languages Regulation, 2025; The Ladakh Civil Services Decentralisation and Recruitment (Amendment) Regulation, 2025; The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (Amendment) Regulation, 2025; and The Union Territory of Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Regulation, 2025.

What did the policies entail?
The Regulations pave the way for 85% reservation for resident Ladakhis in government jobs. The Rules notified empowered the tehsildar to issue the domicile certificates. To be considered "domiciles" and thus eligible for the 5% quota in government jobs in the U.T., non-local residents must prove a continuous 15-year stay in the U.T. starting from October 31, 2019. Added with the 10% quota for the Economically Weaker Sections, the total government job reservation in the U.T. now stands at 95%, one of the highest in the country.

According to the 2011 Census, Ladakh's population is 2,74,289, and nearly 80% are tribals. The U.T. has a majority Buddhist population in Leh and a sizeable Muslim population in Kargil.

Another recently notified policy said that at least one-third of the seats in the hill councils of Leh will be reserved for women, on a rotational basis across jurisdictions, and the official languages of the U.T. will be English, Hindi, Urdu, Bhoti, and Purgi.

Why were the policies notified?
After the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution was read down on August 5, 2019, the former State was split into two Union Territories – J&K and Ladakh, the latter without a legislative Assembly. After initial euphoria, the Ladakhi civil society groups began protests demanding protection of land, resources, and employment. Concerns arising out of big businesses and outsiders acquiring land and jobs led people to protest and observe shutdowns. Cutting across party lines, locals and a former BJP MP demanded restoration of protection as granted under Article 35A of the Constitution, which was revoked with Article 370 in 2019. Article 35A lets the J&K legislature decide the "permanent residents" in the former State, prohibits a non-J&K resident from buying property, and ensures job reservation for its residents.

In 2020, the People's Movement for Constitutional Safeguard or the Leh Apex Body (LAB) was formed, backed by the powerful Ladakh Buddhist Association. In 2021, the LAB and the Kargil Democratic Alliance came together to fight for constitutional safeguards for the region. Together, they came up with four key demands: inclusion under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution (giving tribal status and autonomy over land), Statehood, separate Lok Sabha seats for Leh and Kargil districts, and filling of existing government vacancies.

What is next?
Cherring Dorjay Lakruk, the president of Ladakh Buddhist Association and co-convenor of the LAB, said that they will continue to demand Statehood and inclusion under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

"Only one chapter, that of government jobs, is closed. The talks with the government will continue over issues such as the protection of land and constitutional safeguards. So far, we have not raised the issue of land with the government," Mr. Lakruk said.

Before the policies were notified, the high-powered committee members were invited by Union Home Minister Amit Shah for a tea party at the latter's residence. "The Home Minister assured us that all other issues will remain under discussion," Mr. Lakruk said.

THE GIST

- Ladakh's government has notified regulations ensuring 85% reservation in government jobs for resident Ladakhis, with a 5% quota for domiciles proving 15 years' continuous stay from October 31, 2019, and a total reservation of 95%, including the 10% EWS quota.
- Ladakh's civil society groups continue to demand Statehood, inclusion under the Sixth Schedule for tribal status and autonomy, and protection of land and employment, with ongoing talks promised by the Union Home Minister.

Stampede: Most injured persons discharged from hospitals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Except for six persons, who are being treated in various hospitals, all the others were discharged, doctors said on Thursday, a day after stampede at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium claimed 11 lives and left at least 56 others injured.

At the State-run Bowring and Lady Curzon Medical College and Research Institute, where 18 injured persons were admitted, 16 persons were discharged. "Except for two, who have suffered fractures and required surgery, we have discharged all the others," Hospital Liaison Officer Srikanth Helawar said, adding that these two may require two more days to recuperate. At the Vydehi Super-Speciality Hospital on Vittal Mallya Road, 10 of the 12 injured persons, who were under treatment, have been discharged.

At Manipal Hospitals, all injured except two have been discharged.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUN. 06
RISE 05:53 SET 18:44
RISE 14:46 SET 02:07

SATURDAY, JUN. 07
RISE 05:53 SET 18:44
RISE 15:33 SET 02:42

SUNDAY, JUN. 08
RISE 05:53 SET 18:45
RISE 16:21 SET 03:20

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	32	20
Bengaluru	31	21

Bengaluru Today
31ºC Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30ºC The weather will be dry. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Chances of llight rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the NOTICE of the General Public, that **Smt. POORNIMA CHANDRASHEKAR,** aged about 39 years, w/o. Chandrashekar R/at: 4/15, Duraiswamy Naidu Street, Poondi Village, Walajah Taluk, Poondi Vellore Tamil Nadu – 682 513, today at Bangalore, is the full & absolute owner of the Property bearing Site No. 17, Property No. 104/2 of Kammasandra Village, Anekal Taluk, which is morefully described in the schedule below, having purchased from Nalini, under Sale Deed dated 14/07/2022 registered as Document No. ANK-1-12700/2006-07 of Book – I stored in CD No. ANKD 140 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.

It is further notified to the General Public that the earlier Sale Deed dated 07/05/2003 executed by **Sundrappa** in favour of **G. Ekambaram** registered as Document No. 1074/2003-04 of Book – I in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, was lost/missing. A Police complaint in this regard was also lodged with the Jurisdictional Police/Bangalore City vide Lost Report No. 1625798/2025 dated 27/05/2025. It is hereby requested that if any person/s comes across or finds the same, they are requested to hand over the same to the below-mentioned address & they will be compensated accordingly.

It is also notified that **ANUSUYAMMA,** aged about 55 years, w/o. B. Chandrashekar, R/at No. 762, Anugraha, Classic Colony, Near Manjunatha School, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, is intending to avail a loan from LIC Housing Finance Ltd., to purchase the scheduled property from the present owner/Poornima Chandrashekar.

The General Public are hereby further cautioned that if anybody deals with the Schedule Property with any person/s based on the misplaced/lost document mentioned above, it is at their own risk & cost and such person/s will not derive any title over the Schedule Property and in such an event they have no claim of whatsoever nature against **Poornima Chandrashekar** nor against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of property bearing **Site No. 17,** Property No. 104/2, Janjur No. 3448, situated at **KAMMASANDRA VILLAGE, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District,** measuring East to West **30 feet,** North to South **38 feet,** totally measuring **1140 square feet** and bounded on: -

East by : Site No. 16; West by : Site No. 18; North by : Private Property & South by : Road:

Shri. G.N. HARISH, Advocate,
Office at No. 312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross, VI Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 070
Dated : 05/06/2025 Place : Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase a portion of the Vacant Site bearing **No.1,** bearing BBMP E-Aasthi Khatha Property No. 59/434.4/53/45/1/1 and E-PID No.6878147009 measuring on the Eastern Side 63 ft 2 inch, Western Side 64 ft 8 inch, Northern Side 68 ft 1 inch, Southern Side 66 ft 3 inch, **totally measuring 4293 Square feet** formed in land bearing Survey No.43/4 duly converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Official Memorandum dated 12.10.2017 bearing No. ALN(EKHW) SR/39/16-17 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District and Survey No.45/3 (Old Survey No.45/1) duly converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Official Memorandum dated 12.02.2018 bearing No.ALN(EKWH) SR/27/17-18 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, assigned BBMP Khatha No.59,59/43/4,45/3,45/1/1 and Ward No.84 situated at **Nallurahalli Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore** and bounded on:

East : Road, West: Site No.2, North : Sanjeevini Apartments, South : 30 feet wide Road,
from its owners **Mrs.Geetha Devendra, wife of Mr.M Devendra and Mr.Sukruth Devendra, son of Mr.M Devendra.**

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/claims with documentary evidence within **10 days** from the date of this publication, to the undersigned.

K. V. Narendra & Associates, Advocates,
No.557, 2nd Floor, 9th A Main, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038.
Ph: 9945109229 / 9591067392.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client **Mr. R. Vinod @ Vinod Ramu** intends to purchase below mentioned Schedule Property from its absolute owners **Smt. Sarojamma W/o. Late. Krishna Reddy,** Aged about 67 years along with her family members who are residing at 1/259, Kothajukoor, Belakondapalli, Komaranapalli, Post, Peddabelagondapalli, Denkanikottai District, Krishnagiri, Tamilnadu-635 114 such of those person/s who are having any right, title, interest and/or any claim in and over the said property may lodge their claims if any with under signed along with relevant documents within **7 days,** failing which my client may proceed to purchase as if no claims' forth coming and it is deemed free from all encumbrances'. No claims are entertained beyond time prescribed.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing New **Sy. No.48/3 (old Sy.No.48/1 A) Geratiganabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk** measuring 0.36.08 guntas and bounded on:

East by : Nanjareddy's Property
West by : Mallamma's Property
North by : Government Road,
South by : Nanja Reddy Property

Sunitha.M, Advocates,
M/s. SM Associates,
No. 841, 11th Cross, 35th Main, J.P. Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore-560078
PH: 9742619477
Bangalore Date : 06-06-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LOST OF DOCUMENT

I am issuing this public notice under the instructions of my client **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan, W/o Sri.Sudarshan.N.P,** that she is the absolute owner of the Gramatana Property bearing Site No.138, in Portion of Assessment S.No.26, 27/1, 27/2 & 27/3, Katha No.82, Situated at **Manganahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** comes within the limits of Kodigehalli Panchayath, Measuring : East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, totally measuring **1200 Sq.feet** and bounded on the : **East by : Site No.169, West by : Road, North by : Site No.139 and South by : Site No.137/1.**

It is hereby informing to the general public that during the scrutiny of title documents, it's been found that original registered Absolute Sale Deed, dated: 16/11/2006, executed by **Sri.K.N.Gopal** in favour of **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan,** which is registered as Document No.BLN-1-52277-2006-07, of Book –I, Stored in C.D.No.BLND359, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, with respect to the said property and presume this was lost somewhere in Girinagar while travellingfrom Girinagar to Basavanagudi, by scooter on 24th May 2025 at about 4.00 p.m.

My client Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan undertaking that she has not pledged the said original document and not availed any loan/financial/credit facilities from any person/financial institution/Banks. For future perfection, clarification and to safeguard the legal rights of my client **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan,** I am issuing this public notice. **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan** has lodged FIR, dated: 05/06/2025, vide Lost Article Report No.1639139/2025, u/s 155 CrPC, before the jurisdictional Police, regarding the same.

Hence once again it is hereby informing to the general public that **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan**, had lost the Original registered Absolute Sale Deed, dated: 16/11/2006, which is registered as Document No.BLN-1-52277-2006-07, of Book – I, Stored in C.D.No.BLND359, registered in the office of the Subregistrar, Bangalore North Taluk, in respect of the said property.

Further hereby informing that the said document/s are not traceable. For brevity of said deed as state supra, I am issuing this public notice. If any body found the said document, the same may be handed over at the below mentioned address.

Mrs.M.Manjula, Advocate
No.C-1, 1st Floor, Maruthi Pearl Plaza, D.V.G.Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004. Mob : 9945027091.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LOST OF DOCUMENT

I am issuing this public notice under the instructions of my client **Sri.Dinesh Kumar.P.M., S/o Sri.Mariyappa,** that my client and his sister **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan,** are the absolute and joint owners of the Gramatana Property bearing Site No.193/1, in Portion of Assessment S.No.26, 27/1, 27/2 & 27/3, Katha No.82, Situated at **Manganahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** comes within the limits of Kodigehalli Panchayath, Measuring : East to West 42 feet and North to South 30 feet, totally measuring **1260 Sq.feet** and bounded on the : **East by : Private Property, West by : Road, North by : Site No.194 and South by : Site No.193.**

It is hereby informing to the general public that during the scrutiny of title documents, it's been found that original registered Absolute Sale Deed, dated: 16/11/2006, executed by **Sri.K.N.Gopal** in favour of **Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan** and **Sri.Dinesh Kumar.P.M**, which is registered as Document No.BLN-1-52273-2006-07, of Book – I, Stored in C.D.No.BLND359, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, with respect to the said property and presume this was lost somewhere in Girinagar while travelling from Girinagar to Basavanagudi, by scooter on 24th May 2025 at about 4.00 p.m.

My client Sri.Dinesh Kumar.P.M., undertaking that he or his sister Smt.Hemalatha Sudarshan have not pledged the said original document and not availed any loan/financial/credit facilities from any person/financial institution/Banks. For future perfection, clarification and to safeguard the legal rights of my client **Sri.Dinesh Kumar.P.M**, I am issuing this public notice. **Sri.Dinesh Kumar.P.M** has lodged FIR, dated: 05/06/2025, vide Lost Article Report No.1639124/2025, u/s 155 CrPC, before the jurisdictional Police, regarding the same.

Hence once again it is hereby informing to the general public that **Sri.Dinesh Kumar.P.M,** had lost the Original registered Absolute Sale Deed, dated: 16/11/2006, which is registered as Document No.BLN-1-52273-2006-07, of Book – I, Stored in C.D.No.BLND359, registered in the office of the Subregistrar, Bangalore North Taluk, in respect of the said property.

Further hereby informing that the said document/s are not traceable. For brevity of said deed as state supra, I am issuing this public notice. If any body found the said document, the same may be handed over at the below mentioned address.

Mrs.M.Manjula, Advocate
No.C-1, 1st Floor, Maruthi Pearl Plaza, D.V.G.Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004. Mob : 9945027091.

SAI

Date:- 05.06.2025

E-Tender Notice

Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites e-tender for following works:-

SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-02/2025-26 for CARRYING OUT FABRICATION & INSTALLATION OF MS GRILLS IN 300 BED HOSTEL STAIR CASE WINDOWS AND PAVER BLOCK WORKS IN HOCKEY CHANGE ROOM & COVERING THE RCC DRAIN COVERS TO THE STORM WATER CHAMBERS IN THE CAMPUS AT SAI,NSSC,BANGALORE. for more details please visit E-Tender website http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in & http://www.saisouth-bangalore.com.

The Last date of Submission of E-Tender is 25.06.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.

Sd/-, Deputy Director-Infra

CENTRAL RAILWAY

SOLAPUR DIVISION

TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur on Behalf of President of India, invites e-tender from the reputed firms / contractor for the following works.

Tender Notice No.	Name of Work	Approximate Cost of the work	Earnest Money	Completion period of the work	Maintenance Period
13-2025-SrDENC	TRR(P) -7 km, TSR(P) -12.71 Km, Casual renewal of rail -4 Km & casual renewal of sleepers 3 Km, CTR(P)- 5.655 Km, TRR(P) -4.237 Km in yards, renewal of SEJ with TWSEJ and Glued joints, TTR(TSR) & TTR (TWS+WCMS), TFR - 36.13 km and TTR (TFR) in ADEN/SUR(T) section under Sr. DEN(S) SUR jurisdiction in Solapur division.	Rs. 65391168.44	Rs. 477000.00	12 Months	NA
14-2025-SrDENC	TSR(P) -11.9 Km, Casual renewal of rail -4 Km & casual renewal of sleepers 3 Km, CTR(P)- 1 km in yards, renewal of SEJ with TWSEJ and Glued joints, TTR(TSR) & TTR (TWS+WCMS), TFR - 6.1 km and TTR(TFR) in ADEN/KLBG section under Sr.DEN(S) SUR jurisdiction in Solapur division.	Rs. 37408054.56	Rs. 337100.00	12 Months	NA
15-2025-SrDENC	47.3 Km TBR Work under th jurisdiction of ADEN/T/SUR in Solapur division	Rs. 84157008.99	Rs. 570800.00	12 Months	NA
Last date & Time of uploading quoted tender on www.ireps.gov.in website.		23.06.2025 upto 15:00 hrs			
Date & Time of Opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in		23.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs			

The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigendum issued for this tender. Website: www.ireps.gov.in.

Divisonal Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur

SUN 73 अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन को पार करना दंडनीय अपराध है

IDEMI
Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
Organised by IDEMI Mumbai, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India
Government Certificate course on
Gem registration & E tendering
start your business with govt of India.
Course duration : 2 days | Time: 10.30 AM TO 5.00 PM
Course Dates: 14,15 June 2025
Venue: IDEMI Extension Centre Bangaluru C/o MSME Development Institute, West of Chord Rd. Industrial Estate,Rajajinagar,Bengluru, Karnataka-560010
Email ID: training@idemi.org Website: www. Idemi.org Ph.:[022] 2405 0301/2/3/4
Contents:- Gem Registration, Reseller I OEM Panel Setup, Catalogue Management System (Product Upload), Product Information (Universal Product, Various Quadrant), Managing Payment Transactions, BID Management, RA (Reverse Auction) Management, L-1 Purchase, Direct Purchase Product Management, Payment Process of GeM, Gem Sahay app information
Scan QR code for registration
Fees- 4500+18 % Gst (Fees are not refundable)(Include lunch & tea)
After successful completion, certificate will be issued
For Technical Detail-7588551926
For Whom-people small scale industries,traders,dealers,startup and interested person
Call for details between 10 am to 6 pm
Contact-9403566219,8007765693,9594854976,9869087617

Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,

ESTD.: 1963
Admin. Off.: No. 16, 1st 'A' Main Road, Sudhamanagar, Bengaluru-560 027.
Ph: 48521054; Email: textilecbl@gmail.com / ao@tcbl.co.in

LOCKER BREAK OPEN NOTICE

The Locker mentioned below remains inoperative and dormant for more than Seven Years and above. Rent arrears have not been cleared since more than two years. The hirer's have not responded and the registered notices sent to the address of the hirer's have been returned not served. Under the circumstances, we will be compelled to break open the said locker and notice is hereby issued, so that concerned persons shall approach the branch with relevant documents on before **10.06.2025** during business hours for claiming/ closing locker facility, failing which we will be constrained to break open the lockers mentioned below, in their absence on or after **18.06.2025**

SL. NO.	BRANCH DETAILS (Address, Mail Id, Contact no)	LOCKER No.	Details of hirer (Name and Address)
1	**TEXTILE CO OPERATIVE BANL LTD.** Khatha No. 3921/2661/12, 3584/ 2661/1, Weavers Colony, Nelamangala Town, Bengaluru-562123 Ph: 080-48521054 Email: textilecbl@gmail.com / ao@tcbl.co.in	27	**Mr. Marulasiddaiah M** S/o Mallikarjunaiah Residing at No. 65, Subhash Nagar, Weavers Colony, Nelamangala, Bangalore-562123

Date : 06/06/2025
Place : Bengaluru
Sd/-
(Authorised Officer)

SAI

Date:- 05.06.2025

E-Tender Notice

Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites e-tender for following works:-

SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-01/2025-26 for REPLACEMENT OF TILES AND BATHROOM FITTINGS IN ALL THE ROOMS AND CORRIDORS IN THE 100 BED HOSTEL ELITE WOMEN AT SAI, NSSC, BANGALORE. for more details please visit E-Tender website http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in & http://www.saisouth-bangalore.com.

The Last date of Submission of E-Tender is 25.06.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.

Sd/-, Deputy Director-Infra

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

SALEM DIVISION (SIGNAL & TELECOM BRANCH)

E-Tender Notice No. SA-SG-120-I-OT-02-2025 Date : 30.05.2025

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Southern Railway/ Salem Division, Salem - 636005 for and on behalf of the President of India invites **ONLINE** tenders for the following works as per tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderer(s) / contractor(e) intending to apply for e-tender for **WORKS** in Salem Division need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **"www.ireps.gov.in"** and only online tenders will be accepted Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal).

Tender Notice No.	**SA-SG-120-I-OT-02-2025**
Name of work	**SALEM DIVISION - Signal and Telecommunication work in connection with Truck Machine Siding LUS and allied Engineering works over SALEM DIVISION.**
Approximate cost of the work	**Rs. 2,97,00,830.94/-**
Earnest Money Deposit	**Rs. 2,98,500.00/-**
Cost of tender form including tax : Nil	
Eligibility criteria for similar single work previously executed : Applicable	
Period of Completion in months : 24 months	
Tender closing date and time : 23-06-2025 at 15.00 hrs.	

Note : Details of approximate value of tender, tender form cost, EMD & location are given on the e-portal "**www.ireps.gov.in**'
For other Details, terms and conditions, the tenderers are advised to refer to the Tender documents which are available at "**www.ireps.gov.in"** website

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer,
Southern Railway, Salem - 636 005

CENTRAL RAILWAY

SOLAPUR DIVISION

TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur on Behalf of President of India, invites e-tender from the reputed firms / contractor for the following works.

Tender Notice No.	Name of Work	Approximate Cost of the work	Earnest Money	Completion period of the work	Maintenance Period
16-2025-SrDENC	Daund - Wadi-TFTR - 3.00 km by cut & connection method under ADEN(T)/SUR in Solapur division.	Rs. 86779938.37	Rs. 583900.00	12 Months	NA
Last date & Time of uploading quoted tender on www.ireps.gov.in website.		25.06.2025 upto 15:00 hrs			
Date & Time of Opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in		25.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs			

The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigendum issued for this tender. Website: www.ireps.gov.in.

Divisonal Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur

SUN 74 अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन को पार करना दंडनीय अपराध है

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 27.06.2025

Last date of EMD : 26.06.2025

ARM – I Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310066. E-Mail – cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **27.06.2025 at 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **26.06.2025 At 5.00 pm.**

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection Date & Time
1.	**1. M/s Javeed Steels Prop. Mohd Aaqib Javeed** At No. 30, New Bambool Bazar City Market, N R Road Bengaluru-560002. **2.Mohd. Aaqib Javeed 3.Smt. Fahmida Begum Urf Nishat Begum 4.Mohammed Irfan Javeed No.2,3,4 are at :** At No.301, Thimmaiah Road, Civil Station, Shivaji Nagar Bangalore-560046.	All part and parcel of immovable property bearing municipal No 301 (old No. 21/F) situated in Thimmaih Road, Bangalore Mahanagara Palike ward No79, Bangalore Together with all the construction thereon measuring on east 103 feet, on West 99 feet, on North 19 feet and on south 22 feet and 8 inches, Total extent of the land 2232 Sq.ft and Bounded on the: East By: premises bearing old No.21/E of Thimmaiah Road , West By: Premises bearing old No.21 of Thimmaiah Road, North By: Thimmaiah Road AndSouth By: Conservancy. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.59240N Longitude- 77.36109E**	**Rs. 8,09,81,266.72 as on 02.06.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	**a) ₹ 307.64 b) ₹ 30.76 c) ₹ 1.00**	**10.06.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer
		All that part and parcel of immovable property presently bearing amalgamated Corporation Khata No.30,PID No. 47-44-30, New PID No. 119-W0162-31,(consisting of Old shop bearing old No 11&12, later No. 30, PID No. 47-44-30 & Old Shop No.31 PID NO 47-44-31).Situated at New Bamboo Bazaar Road, BangaloreCity within the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike and Measuring East to West: 20 Feet and North to South: 20 Feet in all measuring 400 Sq.ft and Bounded on the:East By: N R Road 1st Cross,West By: Private Property,North By: New Bamboo Bazaar Main Road And South By: Shop premises belonging to Mahaboob Pasha **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.57457N Longitude- 77.34432E**		**a) ₹ 92.31 b) ₹ 9.23 c) ₹ 1.00**	

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 08025310066, 6381952519, 9966397756, 8098415841 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 05.06.2025
Sd/- Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 27.06.2025

Last date of EMD : 26.06.2025

ARM – I Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310066. E-Mail – cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **27.06.2025 at 11:00 AM to 11:30 AM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **26.06.2025 5.00 pm.**

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection Date & Time
1.	**1. M/s Lakshmi narayanaswamy M Sand 2.Mr. Lakshmanappa M R S/o Ramiah 3.Mrs. Parvathamma W/o Lakshmanappa M R No.1,2,3 are at :** Door No.130/4 80 Feet Road, KHB Colony Basaveshwara Nagar Bangalore-560079. **Also at : 2 & 3 Residing at: Mrs.Parvathamma,** Resding at:138, Srinikethan 7th Main, Mens Railway Layout Bhavani Nagar, Ullal Bangalore South-560056. **Also at: Mrs. Parvathamma** #403, Visweswaraya Layout 6th Block, Near K L E Law College Bangalore-560091.	Existing Regd MODTD of land situated in Sy.No 43/P1. Khahta No 167 and 168, Dananyakanapura Village, Byatha Village, Oodigere Hobli, Tumkur District-572104. 14 acres which consists of 9 acres standing in the name of Mr. Lakshmanappa M R S/o Ramaiah and 5 acres in the name of Mrs. Parvathamma W/o Lakshamanappa M R. Out of the total 14 acres, only 4 acres of land (2 acres each in Katha No. 167 and 168) has been converted for industrial purpose. **Boundaries as follows: 1. Bytha Village Sy No 43/P1, 7Acres-0 Guntas : East:** Sy No.44, **West:** Sy No.44, **North:** Land Belongs to Parvathamma, **South:** Land Belongs to Veeranna. **2. Bytha Village Sy. No. 43/P1, 7Acres-0 Guntas : East:** Land Belongs to Lakshmanappa, **West:** Land Belongs to Veeranna, **North:** Sy No.44, **South:** Remaining Road. **3. Bytha Village Sy. No. 43/P1, 2Acres-0 Guntas : East:** Remaining Land, **West:** Sy No. 46, **North:** Sy No.44, **South:** Remaining Road. **4. Bytha Village Sy. No. 43/P1, 2Acres-0 Guntas : East:** Remaining Land, **West:** Sy No. 46, **North:** Sy No.44, **South:** Remaining Road Coordinates of the property **Latitude- 13.290047 Longitude- 77.222282**	**Rs. 16,32,74,425.67 As on 02.06.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	**a) ₹ 583.17 b) ₹ 58.32 c) ₹ 1.00**	**10.06.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer

Sl.No.	Description of the machines	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	2 Streams of 300 TPH skid mounted sand crushing plat with stockpile 5000T and dry classification unit.	₹ 797.50	₹ 79.75	₹ 1.00
2.	Volvo Hitachi Excavators.	₹ 311.85	₹ 31.19	₹ 1.00
3.	304 KW/380 KVA Silent diesel Generating set with CPCB-II approved acoustic encloser comprising of Cumins Model QSN-14-G, radiator cooled diesel engine deceloping 487 BHP, at 1500 RPM, with PCC 3.3 controller complete with standard accessories, coupled to Stamford alternator rated at 304KW/380KVA at 415 volts, mounted on channel iron base frame, complete with fuel tank & maintenance free fully charged Cummins Pulselite batteries without panel.	₹ 21.45	₹ 2.41	₹ 1.00
4.	600KW/750KVA Silent diesel Generating set with CPCB-II approved acoustic encloser comprising of Cumins Model KTA-38-G13, radiator cooled diesel engine deceloping 987 BHP, at 1500 RPM, complete with standard accessories, coupled to Stamford alternator rated at 600KW/750KVA at 415 volts, three phase mounted on channel iron base frame, complete with fuel tank oh 990 litres capacity & maintenance free fully charged Cummins Pulselite batteries without panel.	₹ 46.75	₹ 4.68	₹ 1.00
5.	1200KW/1500KVA Silent diesel Generating set with acoustic encloser comprising of Cumins Model KTA-50-G8-1, radiator cooled diesel engine deceloping 1735 BHP, at 1500 RPM, complete with standard accessories, coupled to Stamford alternator rated at 1200KW/1500KVA at 415 volts, three phase mounted on channel iron base frame, complete with fuel tank oh 990 litres capacity & maintenance free fully charged Cummins Pulselite batteries without panel.	₹ 94.00	₹ 9.40	₹ 1.00
6.	CLA 25.220 (6*4) (VE) fully built tipper with 16 CUM std box engine 0836LFL 220 HP gear box 95 1110, rear axel AP-H9-13120 with interaxel & diff lock. Rear suspension boggle, wheel base 4525 tyre 11.008 20-16 PR with ETT front steel bumper, day cabin, ABS, BS-111.	₹ 123.20	₹ 12.32	₹ 1.00
7.	ACE Hydraulic mobile crane model ACE F-160 4 part slotted boom with 18.1 MTRRS height with SLI, rear view camera, 4 wheel drive with front outriggers (2 Nos.) fly jib & dragging winch, high low selector (16 ton capacity, Ashok Leyland Engine).	₹ 10.55	₹ 1.06	₹ 1.00
8.	CLC 31.30 (8*4) fully built tipper with 18 cum box body, Bharat stage-IV with 12 wheeler.	₹ 112.20	₹ 11.22	₹ 1.00
9.	CLC 31.30 (6*4) fully built tipper with 16 cum box body, Bharat stage-IV with 10 wheeler.	₹ 102.30	₹ 10.24	₹ 1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 08025310066, 6381952519, 9966397756, 8098415841 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 05.06.2025
Sd/- Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

CACHE

Unseen risks: Tech giants appear to operate in a realm where conventional constraints are less binding. REUTERS

AI's unchecked ascent: How big tech is outpacing the regulatory rulebook

AI experiences meteoric acceleration as tech giants refine models and deploy them despite mounting legal and regulatory challenges; privacy laws and regulatory frameworks struggle to keep pace, risking user privacy and societal guardrails becoming afterthoughts in AI's unchecked ascent

John Xavier

Artificial intelligence is experiencing a period of meteoric acceleration. Scarcely a week passes without fresh demonstrations of its expanding capabilities, as giants like OpenAI, Meta, Google, Anthropic and Microsoft unveil deeper integrations of their AI models, each flaunting ever more advanced capabilities.

These firms' fortunes were built on data, both scraped from the internet and personal user details. This digital information now serves as the lifeblood for all the AI tools they deploy to the general public as tiered products.

Some of these tech titans have faced scrutiny over their data practices, resulting in fines in certain instances and changes in their behaviour in others. They have been questioned by regulators, courts, and the general public in several major economies.

To understand the kind of data these firms collect and the methods they use, consider a 2020 class action lawsuit brought against Google. In Brown et al vs Google LLC, users alleged that the tech giant was tracking them even when they were browsing privately, using Google's "incognito" mode.

The users alleged that the tech giant was tracking their data, including shopping habits and other online hunts, despite them choosing to browse privately.

The search giant reached a settlement in April, and lawyers of the plaintiffs valued the accord as high as $7.8 billion. While users will have to individually file for damages, the company agreed to delete troves of data from their records following the settlement.

In another case, Google agreed to settle a case brought against it by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton over deceptive location tracking. The Silicon Valley company agreed to pay $1.4 billion for illegally tracking the location and biometric details of users without consent.

Google is not alone. Llama AI owner Meta is another data guzzler. The social media giant was accused of using the biometric data of users illegally. The company agreed to pay $1.4 billion and sought to deepen its business in the state of Texas.

The settlement route

Both Google and Meta have denied any wrongdoing. This method of making out-of-court settlements, coupled with denying wrongdoing, only emboldens the tech giants. By settling, these companies avoid creating legal precedents that could be used against them or the broader tech industry in future cases. A definitive court ruling against their data practices could open the floodgates for similar lawsuits.

If Google and Meta's legal woes are largely concerned with user data, OpenAI, the standard-bearer of AI's rapid advance, finds itself contesting lawsuits that probe the very foundations of its training methodologies. Multiple class-action suits accuse the company of illicitly scraping vast quantities of personal data from the internet without consent to train its large language models.

High-profile authors and media organisations, including *The New York Times*, have joined this legal fray, alleging copyright infringement and claiming their intellectual property was unlawfully used to construct OpenAI's ChatGPT.

The copyright battles aren't limited to the U.S. Indian book publishers and their international counterparts filed a copyright lawsuit against OpenAI earlier this year, while publisher Ziff Davis sued OpenAI for copyright infringement in April, adding to the web of high-stakes copyright cases.

These cases starkly illuminate the conflict between the AI industry's perceived hunger for limitless data and established protections for personal information and intellectual property. Even as litigation mounts, OpenAI, Google, and Meta's AI development and deployment continue, seemingly undeterred.

Oblivious to these legal and regulatory threats, tech giants appear to operate in a realm where conventional constraints are less binding. They not only continue to enhance their AI models but also deploy them with ever-greater velocity, even as legal frameworks struggle to catch up or even define the parameters of a race that is already decisively underway.

The EU gold-standard tested

Perhaps, an answer could lie in someplace across the Atlantic, where Europe's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) represents a robust attempt to tether data use to individual rights. Penalties under GDPR can be formidable, and the EU has been moving beyond GDPR violations to broader digital market competition issues.

Just this year, the EU fined Meta over the company's user consent policy, which violated the bloc's Digital Markets Act.

The EU's scrutiny is not confined to American firms. Complaints have also targeted Chinese tech companies like TikTok and SHEIN, with allegations of unlawful data exports. While GDPR has undeniably compelled companies to adjust certain practices, the broader AI industry, particularly builders of foundational models, has continued its global expansion with little apparent deceleration. Moreover, the ultimate efficacy of Europe's direct AI regulation remains an open question, with the EU's AI Act not slated for full implementation until August 2025.

This dynamic is mirrored in other significant economies. India, with its Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, is navigating this regulatory maze, formalising a data protection regime. The Act aims for a comprehensive framework, balancing consent requirements with provisions for future flexibility, thus attempting a delicate calibration between control and encouragement. India aims to be both a regulator and an important AI player.

China, too, has implemented stringent data privacy rules that make it difficult for foreign firms to transfer "significant data". While China is strict about data transfers from its soil, the country has given AI development paramount strategic importance by support local firms to harness latest advances in emerging technologies. And as in the U.S., the firms investing most heavily in AI are often those with the largest data troves.

Thus, while courtrooms bustle and regulators issue stern pronouncements, AI giants forge ahead, relentlessly refining models and deploying them at remarkable speeds. Legal challenges, however significant, often resemble the wake behind a rapidly advancing ship rather than a rudder steering its course. It is abundantly clear that privacy laws and regulatory frameworks are struggling to keep pace.

The fundamental truth is that Big Tech's AI innovation cycle currently far outstrips the slower, more deliberative cadence of legal and ethical calibration. In this race, user privacy and broader societal guardrails risk becoming afterthoughts – issues to be managed or litigated post hoc, rather than foundational principles guiding AI's unchecked and transformative ascent.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Though the monsoon has started, the mango season is not over yet. A quiz on all things mango:

Radhika Santhanam

QUESTION 1

This is known as the 'king's favourite'. It is believed that the origin of its name can be traced to a Mughal emperor who was as addicted to it as he was to opium. What is this variety of mango called?

QUESTION 2

A box of mangoes was apparently gifted to this leader just before he boarded a plane, and it is believed that it contained a bomb that exploded when he was mid-air. Though the political assassination of this leader itself isn't proven, let alone the presence of mangoes in the aircraft, a fictitious story around this was written as a book by a writer from the subcontinent and longlisted for the 2008 Man Booker Prize. Who was the leader in question?

QUESTION 3

This mango variety is known after a Portuguese general and viceroy who played a key role in establishing Portuguese colonies in India during the 16th century. Name this variety, grown extensively in the Konkan region.

QUESTION 4

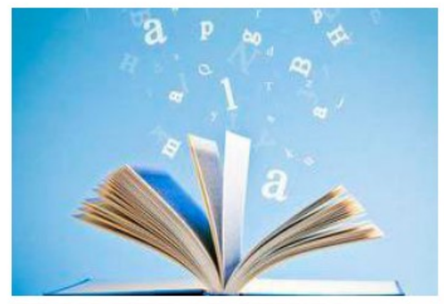
This mango variety, too, is associated with a Mughal emperor who fought a battle at a place of the same name against Sher Shah Suri. What is it called?

QUESTION 5

The mango is said to have played a key role in the spread of this religion. In fact, in one commonly told story, a courtesan named X is said to have offered her mango orchards as a venue for sermons. Which religion is this, and who is X, which is also the name of one variety of mango?

Visual Question:
This is an architect's home in Thiruvananthapuram. The Indian mango pattern recurred in the designs of this architect and Gandhian, who was known for his sustainable designs and who died in 2007. Name him.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Who won Player of the Match on his IPL debut? Ans: **Ashwani Kumar**
2. First captain in IPL history to pick up five wickets. **Ans: Hardik Pandya**
3. Who was the only player to perform a hat trick in IPL 2025? **Ans: Yuzvendra Chahal**
4. Which player took the most number of catches in a match? **Ans: Abhishek Sharma**
5. The only player to win Man of the Match despite ending up on the losing side? **Ans: Tim David**
6. Two players to have become Man of the Match coming in as an impact sub. **Ans: Ashutosh Sharma & Vaibhav Arora**
7. Who hit six consecutive sixes, though not in the same over? **Ans: Riyan Parag**
8. Who created a world record by scoring 25+ runs in each match? **Ans: Suryakumar Yadav**
Visual: First person to have taken part as a player and as an umpire. **Ans: Tanmay Srivastava**
Early Birds: Tamal Biswas | Sonali Das | Sunil Madhavan | Dodo Jayaditya | Pranab Biswas



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"Will you lend me twenty rupees?"
"Fat chance."
"Fat chance! What does it mean? That you will lend me the twenty rupees?"
"Just the opposite! 'Fat chance' is an informal expression and it means 'little or no chance'. For example, if I say, I would like to play tennis with Stefan Edberg, then you could reply..."
"... there's a fat chance of that happening."
"Very good."
"Can I say, there's a fat chance of my being on the college cricket team?"
"You can. Why do you need the twenty rupees any way?"
"My friend Ramani has opened an ice cream parlour near my house and..."
"These ice cream parlours are mushrooming."
"Mushrooming! What does it mean?"
"A mushroom is a ..."
"... I know what a mushroom is. It's some sort of fungus, right?"
"That's right. And the word mushroom can also be used as a verb. When you use it as a verb, it means 'to increase rapidly'. For example, when you say, there's been a mushrooming of English medium schools in our State, it means..."
"... that English medium schools have been growing very quickly."
"That's right."
"Well let me tell you something. These English medium schools have mushroomed all over the country, not just in this State."
"That's true. This is Ramani's second ice cream parlour, right?"
"You have a good memory."
"Thank you. Has Ramani's business mushroomed since opening the new shop?"
"It's too early to tell. He's invited you and I to taste some of his new ice creams."
"That's nice of him. By the way, it's not 'He's invited you and I', but 'you and me'."
"Are you sure?"
"Positive."
"I'm confused. When do you say, 'You and I' and when do you say 'you and me'?"
"That depends on the context. For example, 'Sameer and I went for a walk'."
"Ramani and I ate ice cream."
"Good. Now, if you get rid of Ramani from that sentence, what would the sentence be?"
"I ate ice cream."
"Can you say, 'Me ate ice cream'?"
"Most definitely not!"
"Now listen to this sentence. Ramani bought ice cream for Sameer and me. If you get rid of Sameer from that sentence, what would it be?"
"Ramani bought ice cream for me."
"That's right. Is it ok to say 'Ramani bought ice cream for I'?"
"NO!"
"Here are a couple of more examples. Anuradha and I went to the library. The coach asked Sekhar and me to bat."
"You generally use 'I' when it occurs in the subject position. For example, Tendulkar and I will open in the next one day international. And...."
"... fat chance!"
"Let me continue, will you? And you use 'me', when it occurs in the object position. For example, the principal complimented me for coming first in class."
"You are definitely day-dreaming!"
Published in The Hindu on October 29, 1996

Word of the day

Demagogue:
a political leader who seeks support by appealing to popular passions and prejudices

Synonyms: rebel, inciter, agitator

Usage: *The demagogue stirred anger among the people.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/demagoguepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /dɛməgɒg/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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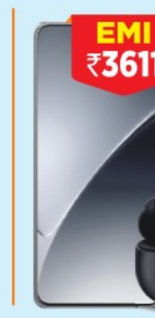

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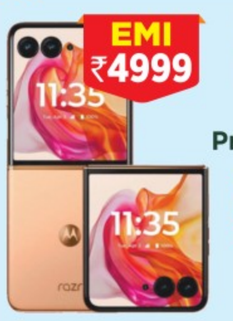

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INBRIEF

New SOP for big events in Bengaluru: Parameshwara

The Home Department will soon draw up a new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for major events and celebrations with large crowds for their better management, announced Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Thursday after visiting M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday.

"Henceforth, all such events have to strictly comply with the SoP and not go against police guidelines and directions," he said. He further said that the government will take strict measures to identify the lapses that led to the stampede and take corrective measures to ensure this doesn't repeat.

Stampede: DC begins inquiry, to summon RCB, KSCA

Jagadeesha G., Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban district, began the magisterial inquiry into the stampede by visiting M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Thursday morning. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had announced a magisterial inquiry into the stampede on Wednesday evening.Mr. Jagadeesha inspected the spots where the stampedes broke out on Wednesday and later said notices to all stakeholders including Royal Challengers Bengaluru management, event management company DNA, and the Karnataka State Cricket Association.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client is intending to enter into a Joint Development Agreement with **Sri. Ashok Suvarna, and Smt. Vaishali Ashok Suvarna,** both residing at Villa No. 52 Prestige Oasis, Near Angasana Spa and resort, Doddaballapura Road, Adde Vishwanathpura, Rajankunte, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, with regards to the immovable property **bearing Survey No.3/3** (agricultural land) measuring **19 guntas, Survey No.3/5** (Residentially converted) measuring **24 guntas & Survey No. 3/9** (Residentially converted) measuring **19 guntas,** situated at **Mudiganahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District,** which are morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule A Property".**

Any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest or period, in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner whatsoever or having any claim against the Schedule Property or the documents thereof or against the Owner or objecting to such transaction with our client, should write to the undersigned ***within seven days (7 days)*** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to Schedule Property or any part thereof, after which period our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Survey No.	Extent Acre - Guntas	East by	West by	North by	South by
3/3	19 guntas	Land in Survey No.3/11	Land bearing Survey No.3/2	Land in Survey No.3/9	Land in Survey No.4/1
3/5	24 guntas	Land in Survey No.3/6	Land in Survey No.3/4	12 Mtrs Road in Survey No. 95	Land in Survey No.3/9
3/9 (old Sy No.3/3)	19 guntas	Land in Survey No.3/3 & 3/7	Land in Survey No.3/1	Land in Survey No.3/5	Land in Survey No.3/3
	1 Acre 22 Guntas				

L.S Kiran Mayee Reddy, Advocate
KIRAN MAYEE LAW FIRM
No. 10, G1, Naveen Apartments,13th Main Road, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052, Ph: 9739163474, E-mail: kiranmayee@kiranmayeelawfirm.com

Department of Agriculture
Commissionerate of Agriculture
Sheshadri Road, Bengaluru-560 001.

No:JDA(E.T&e-Gov)/e-Proc/AIC/KSDA/NAS stroage/01/2025-26 Date: 02.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

The Department of Agriculture (DoA) invites bids through tender notification from the suppliers to supply Network attached storage (NAS) unit to Agriculture department through e-procurement portal in accordance with the Bid Document.

The Bid document containing instructions to Bidders, criteria for qualification and criteria for evaluation may be downloaded from the e-Procurement Website of Government of Karnataka ("GoK") viz. **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.inand** the Proposals shall be submitted as per the provisions of the tender document.

Bid submission closing date: 16.06.2025, Opening of bid documents: 18.06.2025, EMD: 1,60,000/- (One Lakh Sixty Thousand Rupees), Bid Security: Rs. 4,00,000/- (Rupees four lakhs only)

Project Proponent: Department of Agriculture, GoK. **Contact Person: Shri Marthand.** Assistant Director of Agriculture (Farm Information). **Address:** Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, Sheshadri Rd, Bangalore-560001
Ph: 8277929837. **Email:** digiagrigok@ gmail.com

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture &
Tender Inviting Authority.

DIPR/CP/JA/1036/2025-26

BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT
District Office, No. 215, 2nd Floor, DC Office, Birasandra Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District - 562 110.
Ph.: 080-2244 9999, E-mail: dobcmbengalururural@gmail.com

No. : D.B.C./BLR/Out Source Tender/Hostel/CR-09/2025-26
Date : 03-06-2025

PAPER NOTIFICATION

For the year 2025-26, Tenders have been invited online from eligible Individuals / Organizations registered under various Acts and laws to **Procure Staff Services** through external resource agencies for the **Vacant Posts of Data Entry Operator in the Backward Classes Welfare Department, District Office and Taluk Backward Classes Welfare Officers, vacant posts of Cooks, Kitchen Assistants and Night Watchmen in Backward Classes Hostels and Vacant Posts of Cooks, Kitchen Assistants, Night Watchmen, Cleaning Staff and Jawans in Morarji Desai Residential School.**

E-Procurement https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in (BCWD/2025-26/SE0081) Date : 03-06-2025 can be Downloaded. Last Date : 17-06-2025 upto 5.29 p.m. Tenders can be Submitted.

E-Procurement **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in (BCWD/2025-26/SE0081) District Officers, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Bangalore Rural District** can be contacted during Office hours.

Sd/- District Officer,
Backward Classes Welfare Department,
Bengaluru Rural District.

DIPR/Bangalore Rural/1078/Manipal/2025-26

District Child Protection Unit, Women and Child Development Department
No. F.B-08, 1st Floor, New Zilladalitha Bhavana, Shidlaghatta Road, Chikkaballapura-562101
Landline: **08156-277113** E-mail: **dcpocbpur@gmail.com**

No: DCPU/CBP/A.C/2025-26 Date:04.06.2025

Request to relocate the parents

(1) Child Name: Anji (2) Age of the Child: 10 Years (3) Father and Mother: Gangappa and Munirathnamma (4) Address: Nadigadde Sante maidana Behind KSRTC Bus stand, Gowribidanuru Town and Taluk, Chikkaballapura (5) Religion and Cast: Hindu (6) Languages: Kannada and Telugu (7) Complexion and Height: Fair, 123 CM (8) Weight: 20 KG Biological Parents of the child or related guardians or heirs of the child, they are requested to contact the below mentioned office with the relevant documents within 120 days. The child due to Adoption Process. In absence adoption process will be initiated with regarding to this child after 120 days. **Office to be contacted:** District Child Protection Unit, No.FB-08 First Floor New Zilladalitha Bhavana Shidlaghatta road, Chikkaballapura-562101. **Tel No:08156- 277113. E-mail: dcpocbpur@gmail.com**

Sd/- District Child Protection Officer,
District Child Protection Unit,Chikkaballapura

DIPR/CHIKKABALLAPUR/R.O.No:90/KSMC&A/2025-26

ZILLA PANCHAYATH, RAMANAGARA
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division
Office of the Executive Engineer, RDWS&SD,
Panchayath Bhavan, 3rd Floor, Ramanagara Division, Ramanagara.

Tender Notification No. : 03/E.E./R.D.W.S. & S.D./RMG/AE-01/KOSH/326/2025-26 Date : 05-06-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP Portal only)

The Rural Water Supply And Sanitation Division Ramanagara is inviting on behalf of Governor of Kamataka State invites Tenders from eligible tenderers, for the works details below as per **Standard Tender Document. Two Cover Tender** procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP act shall be followed. The Tenders are required to be Submitted through E-Procurement mode through **E-portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Construction of 10 KLD Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant Based on TIGER BIOFILTER TECHNOLOGY in Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District.** Schedule is given below.

1) Amount put to Tender Rs. 75.53 Lakhs, E.M.D. : Rs. 1,51,200/-, 2) Period of Contract : 06 Months, 3) Last Date for Submission of Tender : 20-06-2025 Upto 5.30 p.m., 4) Opening of Technical Bid of the Tender : 23-06-2025 at 11.00 a.m. Onwards. 5) Opening of Financial Bid of the Tender : 24-06-2025 at 11.00 a.m. Onwards.

For further particulars details may avail from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days and may visit the **Website : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
R.D.W. & S. Department,
Ramanagara Division, Ramanagara.

DIPR/Ramanagar/137/Manipal/2025-26

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bangalore
(A Government of Karnataka Institutions)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560052.

KREIS/INFR/OTH/99/2025-ADMN/E-214922 Dated: 05.06.2025

TENDER NOTIICATION (Through E-Tendering Only)

Tenders have been invited on 05.06.2025 for Supply of Mattress & Pillows for Kalaburgi, Belagavi, Bangalore & Mysore Division wise separately to Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka. Through e-Portal vide Tender numbers respectively:KREIS/2025-26/IND0067, KREIS/2025-26/IND0068, KREIS/2025-26/IND0069 & KREIS/2025-26/IND0070 and the last date for receipt of tenders is 05.07.2025. The details may be viewed in the http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. website.

Sd/- Joint Director (Admin)
and Tender Inviting Authority
KREIS, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/1090/AKAR/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. DIVISION, GADAG.
Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division, Gadag.
Phone No: 08372-238782 Fax No. 08372-237268 E.Mail: eepwdgad@gmail.com

No: EEPWDGDG PB- 1: Different Head: 2025-26 /925 Dated: 05-06-2025

Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, Public works department. Division,Gadag invites itemwise tenders from eligible tenderers of 03 work of total amount of **Rs:179.00 Lakh** (Min estimate amount: **Rs: 5.00 Lakhs** to Max Estimate Amount: **165.00 Lakhs**) for the Different Head of account on behalf of the Hon'able Governor of Karnataka as per Standard Bid Document KW-1 and 4 through http://www.kppp.Karnataka.gov.in/
Work Indent No:- Part-1)
22056, 21580 and 21492
(a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **02-07-2025 (b)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : **05-07-2025** Noon **4:00 PM (c)** Opening of Technical / Financial Bid **Date: 07-07-2025** (d) Opening of Financial Bid **Date: 08-07-2025**

GST shall be paid separately as per prevailing Government Order. The increase in GST shall not be paid in the extended period of contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.W.D .Division, Gadag.

DIPR/Gadag/92/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited
(Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Upper Bhadra Project Division No. 6, Somaguddu Road, Challakere. Phone/Fax No.: 08195-250307,
e-mail: ubpee06@gmail.com

No: VJNL/UBP/EE/D-6/CLK/TENDER NOTIFICATION/2025-26/200-204/ DATE: 05.06.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP E-Procurement Only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, VJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer UBP Division No.06, Challakere, invites the tenders under 4701 and TSP (Savings) Grants. The tender invited from the eligible contractors on percentage basis Indent No. **1) 239 – 419.40 Lakhs, 2) 240 – 422.78 Lakhs, 3) 241 – 249.95 Lakhs and 4) 242 – 105. Lakhs** The tenderers are required to submit their tenders in Single cover & Two cover System containing bid documents and supporting eligible documents, which can be obtained through website. www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through electronic tender box. The Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 16.06.2025 at 12.30 PM at the Division office. Last Date for submission of tenders through e-portal is 20.06.2025, Upto 5.00 PM and tender Technical / Single Cover opening date is on 23.06.2025 at 11.00 AM at the office of Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP Division No.6, Challakere. Tender accepting authority reserves all rights to cancel the tender at any stage.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/129/2025-26

Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, Upper Bhadra Project, Division 6, Challakere

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client is intending to enter into a Joint Development Agreement with **Mr.Varadaraju Chandrashekar,** S/o Late M.Varadaraju, residing at 17, 1st Cross Road, RMV extension, Aramane Nagar, Bangalore-560080, to develop the lands bearing **Survey No. 97/1 measuring 24 guntas** of Kemathimanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, which are morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule A Property", and Survey No. 3/10 (earlier Survey No. 3/6)** measuring **4 ½ guntas,** situated at Mudiganahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, which are morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule B Property",**

Any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest or period, in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner whatsoever or having any claim against the Schedule Property or the documents thereof or against the Owner or objecting to such transaction with our client, should write to the undersigned ***within seven days (7 days)*** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to Schedule Property or any part thereof, after which period our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE A PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of undeveloped residentially converted land bearing **Survey No.97/1 measuring 24 guntas, situated at Kempathimanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District,** and bounded on the;
East by: Land in Survey No.95 and Survey No. 96/1; **West by:** Land bearing Survey No.97/3;
North by: Canal land, **South by:** Land bearing Survey No. 97/2 & 97/4

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of undeveloped residentially converted land bearing **Survey No.3/10 (earlier Survey No. 3/6) measuring 4 ½ guntas, situated at Mudignahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District,** and bounded on the;
East by: Road; **West by:** Land in Survey No.3/5;
North by: Village boundary of Kempathimanahalli; **South by:** Land in Survey No.3/7 & 3/8.

L.S Kiran Mayee Reddy, Advocate
KIRAN MAYEE LAW FIRM
No. 10, G1, Naveen Apartments,13th Main Road, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052, Ph: 9739163474, E-mail: kiranmayee@kiranmayeelawfirm.com

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521

No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(APCC & Proc)/EEP/AEE2/2025-26/598-609 Date: 05.06.2025

BRIEF SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Bids on electronic mode against the following Tender Enquiry Nos. as detailed below:

Tender Enquiry Number and Description
1) Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2298** Providing vehicles on hire basis for the use of officers of **Corporate Office, SLDC & Bengaluru Operation Zone, KPTCL.**
2) Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2305** Providing vehicles on hire basis for the use of officers of **Bagalkote Operation Zone, KPTCL.**
3) Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2306** Providing vehicles on hire basis for the use of officers of **Kalaburagi Operation Zone, KPTCL.**
4) Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2307** Providing vehicles on hire basis for the use of officers of **Hassan Operation Zone, KPTCL.**
5) Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2308** Providing vehicles on hire basis for the use of officers of **Tumakuru Operation Zone, KPTCL.**
6) Tender Enquiry No: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2309** Providing vehicles on hire basis for the use of officers of **Mysuru Operation Zone, KPTCL.**

Availability of Bid documents in KPP Portal: **On or after 09.06.2025 @15:00 Hrs** for Sl.No. 1 & 2 **On or after 10.06.2025 @15:00 Hrs** for Sl.No. 3 & 4 and **On or after 11.06.2025 @15:00 Hrs** for Sl.No. 5 & 6.
Last date & time for receipt of Bids: **01.07.2025 @15:00Hrs** for Sl.No. 1 & 2, **02.07.2025 @15:00Hrs** for Sl.No. 3 & 4 and **03.07.2025 @15:00Hrs** for Sl.No. 5 & 6.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"E Procurement KPTCL"** or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

Sd/- Chief General Manager (Tech),
KPTCL, Corporate Office, 2nd Floor, Kaveri Bhavan,
Bengaluru – 560 009

पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिका, पिंपरी-१८
यांत्रिकी विभाग
ई – निविदा सुचना क्रमांक – ०६/२०२५-२०२६

पिंपरी चिंचवड मनपाचे उद्यान विभागाचे वापराकरीता ९००० लि. क्षमतेचे ०८ नग वॉटर टँकर प्रति टँकर २ मजूर कर्मचाऱ्यांसह भाडे तत्त्वावर पुरवठा करणे बाबत ३ वर्ष कालावधीकरीता निविदा मागविणेत येत असून इच्छुक ठेकेदारांनी निविदा दर देताना GST वगळून दर द्यावेत. GST वेगळा दिला जाईल.

अ. क्र.	कामाचा तपशील	निविदा र. रु.	बयाणा र. रु. ०५. %	अनामत र. रु. ५%	कामाचा कालावधी	निविदा फॉर्म फी परत न मिळणारी
१)	पिंपरी चिंचवड मनपाचे उद्यान विभागाचे वापराकरीता ९००० लि. क्षमतेचे ०८ नग वॉटर टँकर वाहनचालक व दोन मजुर कर्मचाऱ्यांसह भाडेतत्त्वावर पुरवठा करणे	७,४२,००,०००/-	३,७१,०००/-	३७,१०,०००/-	३ वर्षे	३६३१०/-

निविदेचे वेळापत्रक

१.	ई निविदा उपलब्ध कालावधी	दि. ०९/०६/२०२५ ते दि. १६/०६/२०२५
२.	निविदा स्विकृती अंतिम दिनांक व वेळ	दि. १६/०६/२०२५ दुपारी ३.०० पर्यंत
३.	निविदा पूर्व बैठक दिनांक व वेळ	दि. ११/०६/२०२५ दुपारी ३.०० वाजता
४.	निविदा उघडणेचा दिनांक	दि. १९/०६/२०२५

कोणतेही कारण न देता निविदा पुर्णत: किंवा अंशत: मंजूर अथवा नामंजूर करणेचा अधिकार मा. आयुक्त यांनी स्वत:कडे राखून ठेवला आहे. निविदा संचाची विक्री http://mahatenders.gov.in संकेत स्थळावर ई- निविदा सुचनेत नमुद केलेल्या तारखेनुसार सुरू राहील. सविस्तर निविदा व निविदेबाबतची इतर माहिती http://mahatenders.gov.in या संकेतस्थळावर उपलब्ध आहे. निविदा पूर्व बैठक ही नियोजित वेळेत मा. सह शहर अभियंता (वि/यां), पिं.चिं. म.न.पा. मुख्य प्रशासकीय इमारत, पहिला मजला, विद्युत विभाग यांचे दालनात आयोजित करण्यात आली आहे. सदरची ई – निविदा प्रणाली वापराबाबत काही अडचण निर्माण झाल्यास NIC यांचेकडील ई-मेल support.eproc@nic.in अथवा help Desk Number -0120-4200462, 0120-4001005, 0120-6277787 या दुरध्वनीवरती संपर्क साधावा.

सही/-
सह शहर अभियंता (वि)१
पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिका
पिंपरी-१८

जाहीरात क्रमांक-२०२५-२६/६९

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N. R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

FORM III

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/561/2025-26 (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3) Date: 04.06.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Widening of Panathur Balagere Road from Panathur RUB to Varthur Gunjur Road** for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the width of 18.00mtrs.

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk : **Bangalore East** Name of the Village: **Balagere**

Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the land/ plot and Extent in Sq.m		Boundaries of the Land/ Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m.	Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout/ Developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	East	West	North	South	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy No.17/4 Khatha Sl No.40, Municipal No.40	Vacant Land		Converted Land				161.51	Varthuru Village Boundary	Sy No.17/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No.17/4 & 17/5	Road	None	None	None	Vacant	45,000/-	1. B. N. Sathya Kumar S/o B. V. Nanjareddy 2. S. Sunil Kumar S/o B. N. Sathyakumar Both are residing at 493, Balagere Road, Near Subbaiah Garden, Varthur, Bangalore-560087. 3. B. N. Venkatesh Kumar S/o B. V. Nanjareddy 4. V. Yashas S/o B. N. Venkatesh Kumar, Both are residing at No.493, Varthur, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560087.
Sy No.17/5							159.26									45,000/-	

Note:
- Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No. NAE 137. MNU 2024 (E), Dated: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No. Commissioner/P.S.R/G/ 1802/2024-25, Dated: 21.09.2024.
- Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub Divisional / Branch Offices	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Cabinet clears tunnel project in Bengaluru under BOOT model

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet has decided to implement a ₹17,780-crore tunnel road project from Hebbal to Silk Board in Bengaluru under the BOOT (Build-Own-Operate-Transfer) model by calling global tenders.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday chaired a Cabinet meeting and cleared the project in the city which would be operated by the private firm for 30 years.

It would be a tolled tunnel. The Chief Minister has been authorised to call global tenders for the project. All works related to the project would be completed in 38 months, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told reporters. The Cabinet cleared a quantum research park at IISc, Bengaluru, and it would be established in collaboration with Foundation for Science Innovation & Development (FSID) at a cost of ₹48 crore.

The Cabinet cleared a ₹1,386-crore project to upgrade all government industrial training institutes in Karnataka. The institutes would be developed with the Asian Development Fund of ₹970 crore. The State government would contribute ₹416 crore and the project will be completed in five years.

It has approved ₹181.77 crore for the State-run Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences in Bengaluru, Kalaburagi, Hubballi, and Mysuru, for purchase of equipment.

INBRIEF

Stampede: Govt. to bear treatment expenses of injured

The Karnataka government has announced that it will cover all medical expenses of all those injured in the stampede at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday. Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh issued an order to the Health Department following Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's directive. The Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust has been instructed to coordinate and ensure timely treatment.

RCB announces ₹10 lakh each to families of the deceased

In the wake of the tragic stampede near M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) has announced a financial aid of ₹10 lakh each to the families of the 11 deceased victims. A new fund, RCB Cares, is also being set up to assist fans injured during the chaos. "Our fans will always remain at the heart of everything that we do. We remain united in grief," the official statement read, pledging continued solidarity with those affected.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (June 6, Friday), the following articles are available:

- Is IBC an effective resolution tool? **newsth.live/roleofIBC**
- As COVID-19 cases register an uptick in India, a look at the vaccine stock position **newsth.live/covidvaccine**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/557 /2025-26 — FORM – III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3) — Date: 04.06.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act,1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Formation of road from Gear School road to Peripheral Ring Road via Gunjur palya, Varthur** for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the **width of 45.00mtrs.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk : **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village : **Panathuru**

Sy. No / Khatha no.	Type of land		Nature of Land	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m	Boundaries of the land / plot				Building details			Present activity on land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the plot/ land for which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture Converted Undeveloped Approved layout / developed land Building Site	Dimension Extent	East	West	North	South	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy No.59/13	Vacant land		Agriculture Land	455.26	Sy No.59/14	Sy No.59/12	Sy No.59/1	Sy No.59/23 & Sy No.24	None	None	None	Vacant	60,000/-	Smt.Lakshmamma W/o Krishnappa R, R/at No.64, BBMP Office Road, Panathur, Bangalore-560103.

Note: Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No:ನಅಇ 137 ಎಂಎನ್‌ಯು 2024 (E), ದಿನಾಂಕ:09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No:ಆಯುಕ್ತರು/ಪಿ.ಎಸ್.ಆರ್/ಜಿ/1802/2024-25, ದಿನಾಂಕ:21.09.2024.

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch office
Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

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RENTAL

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, B L Narasimha Sai Abhiram, S/o B Srinivas, R/at SMQ No.899/8 Prasad Enclave, Air Force Station, Jalahalli West, Bangalore-560015, have changed my name from B L Narasimha Sai Abhiram to Bonta Lakshmi Narasimha Sai Abhiram vide affidavit dated 04/06/2025 sworn before Notary T V Bhadravijaya, Bangalore.

I, SAJU Paul Therattil, declare that the name of father in ICSE records / certificates vide Unique ID 7616310, pertaining to my daughter Maria Tess Therattil has to be corrected / changed and recorded as Saju Paul Therattil (correct name) instead of Saju Paul (incorrect name) vide Affidavit Dated: 04/06/2025, sworn before XXIX Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, R Venkatesh (Old Name) s/o D K Rajanna born on 17–08–1983 residing at No.202, 7th Cross, Shanthilal Layout, Seegehalli Gate, Magadi Main Road, Bengaluru–560091, have changed my name to Venkatesha R s/o Rajanna D K (New Name) vide affidavit dated 03–06–2025 at Bengaluru

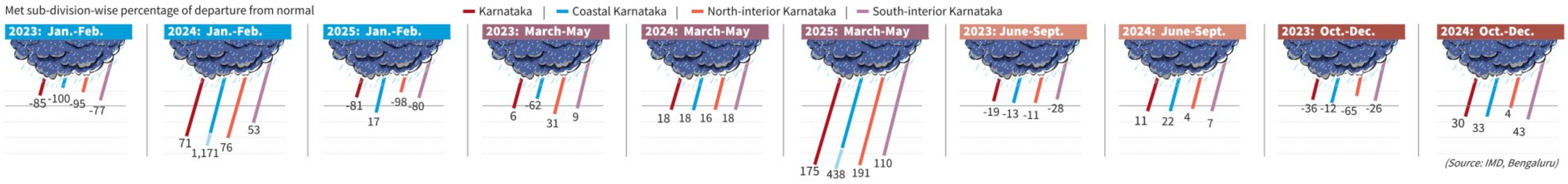
RENTAL

BONDED WAREHOUSE for Lease-Narsapura Area: 3 Acres/ Covered: 85,000 sq.ft. Location: Plot No. 291A, Corner Plot, Industrial Area, Narsapura- 563133 Ideal for logistics, storage & industrial use. Contact: +91 98440 81062/ +91 98919 14100

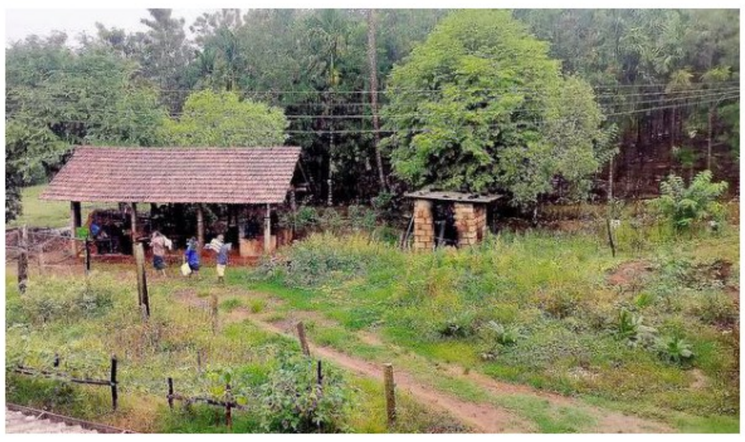
RENTAL WORKSPACE - Koramangala Area: 6,000 sq.ft. / 2nd Floor Location: 71 72, 6th Block, Jyoti Nivas College Rd, Koramangala- 560095. Ct: +91 98440 81062/ +91 98919 14100

Season-wise rainfall data for Karnataka

Met sub-division-wise percentage of departure from normal



(Source: IMD, Bengaluru)



Cause and effect: Farmers drying maize harvested after heavy rain at Choradi and Kumsi in Shivamogga taluk; and a view of an areca plantation near Mandagadde in Tirthahalli taluk. SATHISH G.T.

Farmers, planters in Malnad struggle to weather the storm

From droughts to early monsoons to heavier-than-usual pre- and post-monsoon rains, vagaries of the weather in Karnataka's high rainfall regions are altering farming timelines and yields, find **K.C. Deepika** and **Sathish G.T.**

Rajesh, 35, grows maize on a one-and-a-half-acre plot of land at Kumsi in Shivamogga district in central Karnataka. Going by his previous experience, he was hoping to harvest anywhere between 50 and 60 quintals of the produce this year. The sudden pre-monsoon showers, however, upset his plans as he was preparing to harvest in the last week of May. He could not go ahead with mechanised harvesting, and now, he is busy drying the harvested crop to bring down the moisture level in the produce.

"If the rains were delayed by a few more days, I could have harvested and sold the yield. But the early showers caused me loss," says Rajesh. He is expected to lose up to five quintals of corn because of the early rain.

Abhilash, another farmer, who was also desperately trying to dry maize, says local traders buy the yield for a lower price when the weather is cloudy. "At present, the market price for maize is around ₹2,300 a quintal. The traders will quote a lower price if the moisture content in the yield is high. Anyhow, we cannot keep the stock for long. Considering the input cost and the loss suffered due to the pre-monsoon rain, we will not be able to get much from it," he says.

A file photo of coffee berries damaged owing to heavy rain.

In south Kodagu, M.T. Poovaiah, a coffee planter, had arranged for new planting and tree pruning when heavy rain started lashing the district much earlier than usual. He had to abandon his plans. Poovaiah is now afraid of losing the labour he had managed to arrange if he has to wait longer for the intensity of the rain to recede. The inability to fertilise the plants before the rain is also raising fears of reduced yield.

The story is the same across the hilly Malnad region in Karnataka, which receives one of the highest quantities of rain in the State. From extreme heat and drought in 2023 to excess pre-monsoon rainfall this year, agriculturists in the region have faced every climate-related challenge possible in recent years.

Early monsoon, erratic weather

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the southwest monsoon set in over Kerala on May 24, a week ahead of its normal onset. This was the earliest in the last 16 years. In 2009, the monsoon onset was on May 23, when many States, including Karnataka, witnessed severe floods. Huge damage to life and property was caused due to heavy rainfall between September 28 and October 3, 2009, and nearly 200 people lost their lives, and 11 districts of north Karnataka were the worst hit.

> Along with climate change, we are also having problems with labour, and the two are connected.
>
> **BOSE MANDANNA,** former Coffee Board of India member and a coffee grower in Kodagu

During the pre-monsoon season (March 1 to May 31) this year, Karnataka recorded the highest rainfall since 1901. The actual rainfall received in the period was 286 mm, against the normal of 115 mm. In May alone, the normal expected was 74 mm, while the actual recorded was 219 mm, registering a 197% departure from normal. On the agriculture front, the loss was huge. According to the preliminary estimation, crops cultivated on 15,378.32 hectares, including 3,462.66 ha of horticultural crops, were badly hit by the heavy rain.

During the pre-monsoon season, the Malnad region, spread over Shivamogga, Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, and Kodagu districts, received 443 mm of rainfall as against the normal of 163, registering an excess by 172%.

Large variations

IMD, Bengaluru, data available with *The Hindu* shows that among met sub-divisions, the entire State saw large departures from normal in the March-May period when compared with the previous few years. South-interior Karnataka, which includes the Malnad regions of Hassan, Kodagu, and Shivamogga, saw 110% excess rainfall this year during the three months. The sub-division also saw 80% deficiency in rainfall in January-February, and 43% more rainfall than normal in October-December 2024.

This has meant that farmers, who have been following a well-established timetable for decades, aligning with nature, have had to suddenly alter timelines and farming schedules to face the new challenges thrown up by climate change.

"The rainfall we received during May is sufficient for the whole year. But this is still the beginning of the monsoon. The IMD has predicted an above-normal monsoon this year. If there is heavy rainfall, our areca plantations will suffer. The diseases will hit the plantation badly," says Sunil, a planter near Mandagadde in Tirthahalli taluk of Shivamogga.

Areca hit by diseases

Arecanut is a major cash crop in the Maland region. It is cultivated on more than 1.2 lakh hectares in Shivamogga district alone. The region is also known for producing high-quality arecanuts. But in recent years, the plantations have been affected by diseases such as leaf spot, yellow-leaf disease, and fruit rot, resulting in growers suffering huge losses. However, the impact of the diseases in the areca plantations of neighbouring Davangere and Chitradurga districts, where the rainfall is less when compared with the Malnad region, is less.

Yellow-leaf disease (YLD) is caused by phytoplasma, a bacteria-like organism. With no remedy for the disease, the growers' community is finding it difficult to protect their plantations in the Malnad region. The disease, which reduces yield significantly, is normally noticed after the onset of the southwest monsoon. Experts say heavy rain can create favourable conditions for YLD and other fungal diseases.

"The pre-monsoon showers hardly affect the perennial crops. However, if heavy rain continues for weeks without a break, the plantations will suffer. Planters are aware of methods to avoid the ill effects of waterlogging in the plantations. They need to maintain drainage properly to let the water out," says Nagaraj Adiveppar, scientist and head of the Areca Research Centre at Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences in Shivamogga.

Similar is the tale of paddy growers in parts of Shivamogga, Tirthahalli, Hosanagar, and Sagar taluks. Heavy rain that lashed the region has created huge problems. Paddy is sensitive to excessive water after it is ready for harvest. The grains rot if left in water, causing loss to growers. During heavy rain, many paddy fields were waterlogged for a couple of days. Annappa of Puradalu in Shivamogga taluk was about to harvest the yield in 15 days, but he could not do so because of the rain. "Last year, I lost paddy because of elephants raiding my crops. This time, it was because of the rain," he says.

An arecanut plantation at Hosahalli on the outskirts of Shivamogga. FILE PHOTO

Altered timelines posing a big challenge

For coffee planters in Karnataka, mainly in Kodagu and Chikmagaluru districts, it is the altered timelines that are posing a big challenge. Rana Ponnanna, CEO of Puthari, a farmer producers' organisation based out of Gonikoppal in Kodagu, says the unexpected rain has left the tree pruning exercise in most coffee estates pending, and tree-falls have already caused some losses. "Earlier, we would start fertilisation in June. Now, many have started it in May due to the early monsoon. In South Kodagu, some people have started seed planting for paddy too, which usually starts after June 15. The green manure for paddy is already rotting," he says.

Labour and climate issues

Bose Mandanna, former Coffee Board of India member and a leading coffee grower in Kodagu, put forth another problem. "Along with climate change, we are also having problems with labour, and the two are connected. For example, in May, after fertilisation for Arabica crops, there is a fungicide which has to be sprayed before the monsoon starts and 15 to 20 days after the fertiliser application to help get new leaves. Labourers were present, but because it rained consistently and heavily, and there were tree-falls, we were scared to send them to work. But while we waited for the rain to subside, the labourers left in search of work elsewhere," he recalls.

Mandanna further explains the planting timelines. "We plant two types in coffee estates – eight-month-old saplings (called one-year-old) and two-year-old (18 months). The latter have to be planted in May-June. Many have paid the nurseries for the plants but not lifted them. This is also the time when pinhead forms into a coffee bean. This is the initial period when pinheads should have started developing. Now, in heavy rainfall areas especially, plants will suffer from wet feet – wherein roots will not take in nutrients when there is excess moisture. They lie dormant. This delay affects the development of the crop. Pinhead will drop if the plants suffer from wet feet for long. Sunlight is needed now, otherwise, coffee berry and plant development will be affected."

The question that is being raised now is, how does agriculture cope with climate change henceforth?

Mandanna says warnings about climate change came a long time back, but countries, especially the highly developed and industrialised ones, continue to put out CO_2 emissions while the poorer countries suffer. "Unless each one of us does their bit to save the environment, it'll be an uphill task. Coffee growers here are the most environment friendly in the world. We are the only ones growing under natural forests. Elsewhere, they cut trees. Organic matter in the soil is high here, and carbon is also absorbed. We are also helping by allowing rainwater to be absorbed into the ground."

He says planters have delayed tree pruning. Earlier, it used to be done in February-March, and now it is done in April-May, so the plants don't suffer due to the scorching sun. "Most estates have also taken up rainwater harvesting in various forms. The big nations need to pitch in now and work for the people," he argues.

Officials from the Coffee Board of India were unavailable for comments despite repeated attempts.

Maya memsahib

Meet Maya and her family, the four-footed stars of *My Otter Diary*, a documentary on smooth-coated otters along the Cauvery that offers insights into their relationship with humans

Preeti Zachariah
preeti.zachariah@thehindu.co.in

Sugandhi Gadadhar still remembers her first encounter with a smooth-coated otter while on a family vacation alongside the Cauvery many years ago. As a child, the Bengaluru-based National Geographic explorer, photographer, and wildlife filmmaker often went to play on its banks.

"It was one of those occasions when this thing (the otter) suddenly popped up from the water," she says. "The memory of that stuck in my mind for years."

Later, when filming other wildlife, she returned to that memory, "this mirage-like thing" she found herself unable to shake off. "I wanted to learn more about otters," says Sugandhi, who has just released a documentary, *My Otter Diary*, co-created with her partner, wildlife filmmaker Raghunath "Rana" Belur. "That is when we started looking for otters to study in the wild."

The fact that otters are not so easily spotted "because they are so shy and sensitive" lent to the challenge, she says; especially since "there were not too many documentaries focusing only on otters in India," chimes in Rana.

He adds that most of the studies around these carnivorous, semi-aquatic mammals were set in the region around the Chambal in central and northern India and in Goa. "There were surveys done along the Cauvery, but not too many had studied the behaviour, in terms of one family," he says.

My Otter Diary does precisely that, offering insights into otter behaviour, the threats and challenges they face and the complex relationship they share with the humans who inhabit the same patches of the river they do by following a female otter, Maya, and her family.

"That is what interested us: just spending time with them to understand what they do, how they behave, what their relations are and how they are feeling," explains Rana. "Rather than going around the river or going to multiple places and looking at them, we just thought of looking at one family's point of view."

How it began

Rana and Sugandhi, the co-founders of Aranya Parva Creations, a production company specialising in natural history documentaries, began thinking about otters back in 2018. They had been making a short film on bears for the Karnataka Forest Department, shooting along the Tungabhadra river, close to Hampi and the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary, recalls Rana.

Since the Tungabhadra Otter Conservation Reserve, India's first otter conservation reserve, was created in this area, they started exploring for otters here, but they soon had to give up on this idea due to "different logistical reasons," says Rana.

It helped that they knew people who had studied or worked along this stretch, one of whom was the wildlife biologist Nisarg Prakash, who has conducted surveys and written about the otters along the Cauvery.

Through Nisarg, they met Shivanna "Shivu", a fisherman who lives and works along the river Cauvery, who, with Sugandhi herself and the many otters, is a crucial character in the documentary. "We also needed to navigate the river and were looking for someone who could take us boating," he says.

In 2020, after spending nearly two years traversing the Cauvery, looking for signs of otters, they found Maya and her family. "It was around the time of the pandemic, so we actually took a house in a local village there and stayed in that village for the next five years, instead of travelling up and down," says Rana.

Now you see me Sugandhi (below), stills from her documentary. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

They fell into a routine there, something that the film also captures: leaving home at 5-5.30 am to reach a spot at the crack of dawn, waiting for Maya and her family to appear. "While you know that this is when they come out or return to their den, they don't always stick to that pattern. It was not every day that we saw otters, so that was a challenge," says Sugandhi. "Some days, we would stay the whole day, some days we would wait until we got a gut feeling that they had come and gone, and would not come back that day," adds Rana.

Over the next five years, they would stick to this routine, garnering footage of otters feeding, playing, mating, fighting and bonding, to tell a deeply compelling story of this beautiful animal, currently classified as Vulnerable by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

My Otter Diary, the research of which was supported by the National Geographic Society, TVS Motor Company and Globetek, also explores a more universal theme in a nuanced way: the negative impact of current "development" models on wildlife and indigenous communities, often pitting them against each other. "Otters and fishermen have been living together ever since man took to fishing, but the problems they are now dealing with are different," explains Rana.

The Cauvery, which is under stress due to a combination of factors, now holds fewer fish, which "both the fishermen and otters are trying to get to, so that is where the conflict is arising from," he says.

This 52-minute-long film, which has been co-produced by Oxford Scientific Films and is being distributed by All3Media International, hopes to raise awareness about otters.

My Otter Diary will be screened at Bangalore International Centre on June 7, 11 am to 12.30 pm.

Laugh lines

The exhibition both showcases the technical mastery of the cartoonist as well as offers a visual journey through India's post-Independence history

Everyone's friend RK Laxman's Common Man. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Through the Eyes of RK Laxman, a special exhibition featuring 78 handpicked caricatures by Rasipuram Krishnaswami Laxman, fondly known as RK Laxman, will be held at The Indian Cartoon Gallery between June 7 and 28. The exhibition, crammed with the keen wit and unmatched artistic observation of a man who, for decades, held up a mirror to Indian society with both humour and grace, showcases the technical mastery of the cartoonist as well as offers a visual journey through India's post-Independence history. The exhibition release states the 78 caricatures on display, curated from various phases of his prolific career, reflect his ability to distil the essence of a personality into a few strokes, always exaggerated, yet never unkind. "From politicians and film stars to writers, thinkers, and fellow artists, each portrait tells a story of a time, a temperament, and Laxman's unerring eye for detail."

Through the Eyes of RK Laxman will be shown at the Indian Cartoon Gallery from June 7 to 28, between 10 am and 6 pm, except on Sundays.

STEPOUT

Brain teasers

The Museum of Art and Photography is hosting the World Quizzing Championship in their quest to crown the World Quizzing Champion. Open to all, deadline for registrations is 5pm on June 6. On-the-spot registrations will not be accepted. *Registration fee ₹300 to be paid online. Log in to map-india.org to register.*

From the other side

Shoorpanakha: A Search is a debut solo play that will be presented by Parshathy J Nath, a theatre practioner, performer and writer. The play is a reimagination on one of the most marginalised characters in *The Ramayana*. *At Ranga Shankara Theatre on June 11 at 5.30pm. Tickets at ₹299 on BookmyShow*

Doodle debut Rathan Gangadhar, a still from the movie. MURALI KUMAR K AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

From pencil to picture

Ad filmmaker-turned-director Rathan Gangadhar's debut film *Sees Kaddi* uses the metaphor of a pencil to tell interlinked stories

Shilpa Anandraj
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The Kannada film, *Sees Kaddi*, marks Rathan Gangadhar's directorial debut. It is an anthology that explores stories about children through the metaphor of a pencil. The film has already made a mark on the festival circuit.

It was screened at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (2023), selected for the 10th Noida International Film Festival (2023), where it won Best Direction, and also featured at the Bharat International Film Festival (2023), where it received the Best Children's Film award.

Despite the accolades, Rathan remains anxious. "I only hope the film appeals to the audience," says the 39-year-old director, who has previously helmed numerous ad films. Explaining the title, *Sees Kaddi*, he says, "It translates to 'pencil' in English." The film is a drama designed for younger audiences, crafted as a bridge between mainstream and children-focused storytelling."

Structured as a hyperlinked anthology, its narratives do not follow a chronological order. "Instead," Rathan explains, "they reflect the experience of using a pencil – you write, erase, sharpen the lead, and continue. The stories unfold in a similar rhythm."

Born and raised in Bengaluru, Rathan is an alumnus of MES College, Malleswaram, where he first discovered his passion for theatre and writing. The idea for *Sees Kaddi*, he reveals, was sparked by a single paragraph he read in a short story collection by Paulo Coelho.

"I read the book in 2016, and something about that paragraph stayed with me. It touched me deeply, and I began building stories around those words and concepts." What started as a spark soon evolved into a collaborative effort.

"My friends and I came together to shape the story and develop the screenplay," says Rathan, adding that the entire team behind the film consists of close friends. "They're my sounding boards, my collaborators, and now, my cast and crew. *Sees Kaddi* is a film made by friends, with friends for an audience we hope will become friends too."

Rathan shares that *Sees Kaddi* features a rich tapestry of dialects from across Karnataka, including rural Tumakuru, Bengaluru, Havyaka, and North Karnataka. "I believe the Tumakuru dialect hasn't really been explored in cinema," he says.

Rathan began his journey in the film industry in 2012 as an assistant writer. "Unfortunately, the films I worked on never saw the light of day, but I learned a great deal through the process," he reflects.

Despite his background in advertising, Rathan admits that marketing a film presents a whole new set of challenges. "Cinema is a completely different ball game altogether," he says. *Sees Kaddi* is produced under Grahana, a production house he co-founded in 2017 with friends Sampath Shivshankar and Krithi Nannnaiah. The film is set to release on June 6.

KSP seeks High Court permission to intervene in plea on *Thug Life* release

Parishat contends that Kamal Haasan's statement on Kannada was made without factual backing or academic support

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kannada Sahitya Parishat (KSP) on Thursday filed an application in the High Court of Karnataka seeking permission to intervene in the petition filed by Raaj Kamal Films International on the issue of releasing Tamil film *Thug Life* in Karnataka, after controversy cropped up owing to actor Kamal Haasan's statement that "Kannada is born out of Tamil".

A file photo of the Kannada Sahitya Parishat building in Bengaluru.

In its application, the KSP has said that "being a primary stakeholder in preserving the integrity, history, and respect of Kannada language, it seeks to intervene to present relevant historical, linguistic, and constitutional aspects concerning Kannada's independent linguistic identity and cultural standing."

The KSP further said that it would bring to the notice of the court the constitutional, cultural, and linguistic concerns arising from the statement of Mr. Haasan and the directions sought by the producer of the film particularly from the perspective of protecting the identity, dignity, and historical legacy of Kannada language and culture.

Contending that Mr. Haasan's statement was made without factual backing or academic support, the KSP has stated that "the language is heart and soul of the land and hence called sacred mother tongue. Bracketing languages in terms of seniority or superiority is akin to comparing sacred motherhood which is totally unacceptable in a civilised society."

Mr. Haasan's letter to Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce, which had demanded his apology, does not contain any categorical apology, the KSP said. It further said that freedom of speech and expression is not absolute as it comes with reasonable restrictions. The application is likely to come up for hearing when the petition is posted for further hearing on June 13.

Earlier in the week, Mr. Haasan had chosen not to tender an apology for his statement, despite a suggestion made in this regard by the High Court to put an end to the controversy.

Raaj Kamal Films International had filed a petition seeking police protection for release of the movie owing to opposition from Kannada organisations and the KFCC. The company stated that it is not willing to screen the movie in Karnataka unless an encouraging dialogue takes place with the KFCC.

Tool launched to guide ecological restoration in Western Ghats

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

PlantWise, a new interactive web tool, has been launched to help ecologists, restoration practitioners, and forest managers identify native evergreen tree species best suited for ecological restoration in the Western Ghats, one of the world's eight "hottest" biodiversity hotspots.

Developed by researchers from the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF), BITS Pilani - Hyderabad campus, and Thackeray Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with the Ecological Restoration Alliance, the tool uses species distribution models based on curated plant occurrence data and environmental variables to predict plant distributions. It suggests a list of appropriate evergreen tree species for a particular site based on its climatic and elevational profile.

The initiative aims to support ecological restoration practitioners in choosing the right tree species for planting. The tool focuses on the evergreen tree species, as more than 60% of evergreen tree species found in the Western Ghats are endemic to the region.

Knowledge gap

"Given that primary evergreen forest patches that extended initially across most of the Western Ghats are now highly fragmented and scattered, planting appropriate tree species in suitable habitats is essential. Scientifically guided recovery of degraded forests is critical towards conserving flora and fauna in the Western Ghats and creating a climate-resilient ecosystem," said a statement from NCF.

"A lack of accurate and spatially explicit distribution maps of species is one of the big challenges in the field of conservation and ecological restoration. For plants, without this information, it is difficult to determine if a species is native to a region or not, knowing which is fundamental to the process of ecological restoration. PlantWise is developed precisely to address this knowledge gap," explained Navendu Page, plant ecologist with Thackeray Wildlife Foundation with tremendous experience with studying plants in the Western Ghats.

Clubbing sciences

The tool integrates publicly available datasets of Mr. Page and French Institute of Pondicherry and data collected by NCF and R. Krishnamani from fieldwork in the Western Ghats.

"*PlantWise* shows how data science and ecological understanding can come together to serve biodiversity conservation," said Viswesh Suri, BTech student from Bits Pilani - Hyderabad campus, who led the development of the tool as part of his project with Akanksha Rathore, professor at BITS Pilani – Hyderabad campus.

Ms. Rathore pointed out that PlantWise is an example of how tools from computer science and ecological knowledge can come together to address urgent biodiversity challenges.

According to Rohit Naniwadekar, scientist at NCF, the tool has been designed to reflect biogeographic patterns and to minimise commission errors, so that species are not recommended for habitats where they don't naturally belong.

State launches district officers' upskilling initiative with Infosys

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Skill Development Department has launched a capacity building programme for all vertical heads and key district officers, in association with Infosys, to impart training to improve the grassroot level implementation of skill development schemes.

A two-day workshop began on Thursday at Infosys's Mysuru campus to impart training.

Sharan Prakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood, inaugurated the programme through video-conferencing from the Vikasa Soudha.

Dr. Patil said the workshop aims to strengthen institutional capacities of district-level officers by exposing them to best practices in leadership, skill ecosystem governance, and programme implementation. "We are creating a collaborative environment for learning and problem solving that will improve skill development delivery at the grassroot level," he said.

The programme focuses on several key areas such as formulation of district skill development plans (DSDPs), effective convergence with central schemes and review of the Chief Minister Kalike Koushalya Yojane implementation.

Bengaluru-Mangaluru national highway blocked by protesters near Solur

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Traffic movement on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru national highway was disrupted on Thursday near Solur as hundreds of farmers of Magadi area in Bengaluru South district (formerly Ramanagara) took out a protest march seeking implementation of the Hemavathi link canal project.

Traffic on the Bengaluru -Mangaluru national highway was disrupted on Thursday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The project that seeks to provide Hemavathi river water from near Gubbi in Tumakuru district is being opposed by farmers of Tumakuru who fear water shortage owing to the project.

Congress legislator from Magadi H.C. Balakrishna led the protesters resulting in a pile-up of vehicles on the national highway as well as the service road.

The farmers are demanding early implementation of the project that will bring water to water-starved areas in Bengaluru South district. The police tried to convince the people to withdraw the protest. When they refused, they took the protesters, including Mr. Balakrishna, into custody to clear the road for movement of vehicles.

COVID-19 deaths rise to seven

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

COVID-19 deaths in Karnataka are gradually increasing with three deaths reported in the last five days, including one in the last 24 hours. With this, the total number of deaths touched seven on Thursday. All the seven who succumbed to the disease are male patients. A 65-year-old SARI patient, who had hypertension and diabetes, died at a government hospital in Davangere on May 31.

According to the Health Department, he was incidental COVID-19 positive and died of a cardio-pulmonary arrest, aspiration pneumonia, and septic shock. He had received just one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Active cases

Meanwhile, with 61 new cases reported in the last 24 hours, the number of active cases touched 451. Of these only five are being treated in hospitals.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

USHA D'CRUZ
27/06/1971 - 05/06/2025
Senior Manager - HR
Mourned by
Management & Staff,
DELIVERING TRUST SINCE 1931 ICSA Group

DEATH

In Loving Memory of

Jagadish Chandra Kamdar
Retired AGM , SBM, Bangalore
20-12-1936 to 04-06-2025
It is with profound grief we announce the sad demise of our beloved father, Jagadish Chandra Kamdar on 4th June 2025. His memory will live on in our hearts forever.
He is survived by
Nira Kamdar (wife) and children and grandchildren
48, SBM colony Hebbal, Bangalore 560024

BIRTH CENTENARY

Centennial Remembrance & Legacy

Sunrise June 06, 1925

Sunset May 15, 2017

Remembering
V. SOMASUNDARAM
On What Would Have Been His 100th Birthday
Today, with profound love and respect,
we honor the remarkable life and enduring legacy of our beloved
V. Somasundaram, the visionary founder of
Padma Mines and Minerals Corporation,
on the centenary of his birth.

Deeply missed, lovingly remembered, and forever celebrated by his adoring family

- His Loving Sons
- His Devoted Daughter
- His Proud Grandsons
- His Cherished Granddaughter
- His Joyful Great - Grandsons

And the entire Padma Mines and Minerals Corporation Family

"A legacy is not just what you leave behind, but what you instill in others that lives on."

Government of Tamilnadu
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender Schedule in two cover system for the Procurement of steel rods for the Housing schemes 2025-26 in all the Panchayat Unions of Chengalpattu District.
Roc.No.0979/2025/A9 **Dated: 04.06.2025**
1. Value of the procurement **Rs.856.00 Lakhs**.
2. Value of EMD is **Rs.8,56,000/-**
3. Bid documents in English may be downloaded in the website **www.tntenders.gov.in** from **05.06.2025 to 20.06.2025 up to 15.00 hrs.**
4. Last date & Time for uploading of Bid documents on **20.06.2025 upto 3.00 PM.**
5. Date and Time of downloading of technical bid documents on **20.06.2025 from 4.00PM onwards.**
6. Other particulars are published in the respective tender schedule in the website **www.tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR / **2865** / Tender / 2025
Additional Collector (Dev.), DRDA, Chengalpattu.

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
H. D. C. NO. B2 / 1727/ 2025
Public Health Department - e-Tender Notice
e-Tender is invited for the following work by City Health Officer as per tender condition

Providing Human Resource 143 Data Entry Operators to the Public Health Department, Greater Chennai Corporation for one year on contract basis.
Value of work Rs. 4,29,34,320/- **EMD amount Rs. 4,29,343/-**
Last date and time for submission of bids : **19.06.2025** up to **3.00** P.M
Date and Time of opening of tender : **20.06.2025 3.30** P.M
The details may be downloaded from **www.tntenders.gov.in**
For clarification or details please call Phone: **044 - 25619330**

DIPR / 2853 / Tender / 2025 **City Health Officer**

GOVERNMENT OF KARANATAKA
KALYAN KARNATAKA REGION DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Opp. Aiwan-E-Shahi, Kalaburagi-585102, Karnataka
Phone No: 08472-256767, Fax No: 08472-227527, hkadbgulb@gmail.com
No. KKRDB/TECH/29/2024-25/ Date: 04.06.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement System)
The Secretary, KKRDB, Kalaburagi hereby invites separate Technical and Financial Bids for **"Supply of Various Staff on Outsource Basis to the Kalyan Karnataka Region Development Board Kalaburagi"** through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka, Firms willing to participate in this tender shall necessarily register themselves with above mentioned e-procurement portal.
The tender document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and should be submitted through e-procurement system only. **Approximate cost work is 1,55,76,000/- & EMD is Rs. 2,33,000/-**
Event & Date
1) Date of publishing the RFP Document : **04.06.2025**, 2) Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in e-Procurement Portal: **10.06.2025 up to 04.00 pm**, 3) Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting (Online): **11.06.2025 at 12.00 pm**, 4) Last date and time for submission of Proposal (Proposal Due Date) : **18.06.2025 upto 05.00 pm**, 5) Date and time for opening of Technical Proposal: **19.06.2025 at 5.30 pm**, 6) Date and time for opening of Financial Proposal: **20.06.2025 at 11.30 am**
Sd/- Deputy Secretary
Kalyan Karnataka Region Development Board Kalaburagi
DIPR/Kalaburagi/185/KSMC&A/2025-26

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(FOOD CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPT)
Tel No.08482-226232 Email id – ddfcs.bidar-ka@nic.in
No.FSB/Cane/CR-01/2025-26 Date: 05-06-2025
Short Term Re-Tender Notification
For the year 2024-25, the below named sugar factories have failed to make cane price arrears as per FRP to farmers. The Commissioner for cane development & Director of sugar in Karnataka has issued order cum-recovery certificate on 04-02-2025. The seized Sugar will be put on sale through NCDEX e-markets Ltd.,- E-Auction platform on 09-06-2025 time from 4 pm to 5pm. The interested participants may collect applications through www.neml.in.
1) Name of the sugar factory : **Naranja Co-Operative Sugar Factory at Imampur Taluka Bidar Dist.Bidar,** 2) Sugar grade **: S-30,** 3) Sugar in Qtls. **: 65000,** 4) Godown No **: 01,** 5) Total **: 65000.**
For further information please contact, Mobile No. 7625015646, 7019830432, 7483675815, 9742492299, 8970314444, 9611123128, 9844302280, 9448349496, Land line No.08482-226232.
Sd/- Deputy Commissioner
Bidar District, Bidar.
DIPR/Bidar/60/KSMC&A/2025-26

Revenue Department
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
Bengaluru Urban District, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009
No. MAG(4)CR/MIS/CR/03/2025-26 Date : 05.06.2025
PRESS RELEASE FOR PUBLIC ATTENTION
It is with deep regret that we inform the public that a tragic incident occurred in the jurisdiction of Police Commisssionerate on 04.06.2025 at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru during the IPL celebrations of the RCB cricket team, resulting in the unfortunate loss of 11 lives and injuries to 47 individuals.
In accordance with Government Order No. HD 218 PCE 2025 dated 04.06.2025, I, **Mr. Jagadeesha G., IAS,** Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Bengaluru Urban District, have been appointed to conduct an **Magisterial Enquiry** into the causes, circumstances, and sequence of events that led to this incident.
The Magisterial Enquiry will be held at the **District Magistrate Court, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urgan District, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009 on date : 13.06.2025 from 11 am to 1.30 pm.**
Members of the public who possess any information related to the incident, or who were witnessess to the events, are hereby requested to appear in person to provide statements or submit relevant evidence during the enquiry proceedings.
This notice is issued for public awaraness and co-operation in the interest of justice.
Sd/-
G. Jagadeesha. I.A.S.,
Enquiry Officer Deputy Commissioner and
District Magistrate Bengaluru Urban District
DIPR/CP/SA/1083/2025-26

The sanctuary spans 524.7 hectares and encompasses both revenue and forestlands within Rameshwaram taluk. L. BALACHANDAR

T.N. notifies greater flamingo sanctuary at Dhanushkodi

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government has officially declared a greater flamingo sanctuary at Dhanushkodi in Ramanathapuram district.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated the sanctuary via videoconferencing at an event organised by the Departments of Environment, Climate Change and Forests in Chennai on Thursday to celebrate World Environment Day.

Critical stopover

The move aims to preserve a critical stopover point along the Central Asian Flyway for thousands of migratory wetland birds. The sanctuary spans 524.7 hectares and encompasses both revenue and forest lands within Rameshwaram taluk.

The designated area, part of the ecologically sensitive Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, is home to a variety of ecosystems, including mangroves, sand dunes, mudflats, and marshes. These unique features support a rich biodiversity, from migratory birds and marine life to nesting sea turtles.

A Government Order (G.O.) issued on June 4, by Ms. Sahu, noted that according to the recent 2023-2024 Wetland Bird Survey, the Dhanushkodi region recorded over 10,700 wetland birds, representing 128 species including herons, egrets, sandpipers, and both greater and lesser flamingos.

Ecologically crucial

Mangrove species such as *Avicennia* and *Rhizophora* dominate the Dhanushkodi lagoon, providing essential breeding grounds and natural defenses against coastal erosion.

The sanctuary status is expected to encourage responsible ecotourism, generate local employment, and raise public awareness about wetland conservation, the G.O. said.

Bengaluru beats Mumbai to become the 'leopard capital'

It is the only metro whose fringes still support an ensemble of tigers, leopards, dholes, elephants, gaur, sambar, etc.; increase in numbers attributed to improved prey availability

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Leopard population inside Bannerghatta National Park has climbed steadily — from 40 in 2019, 47 in 2020 to 54 in 2025. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A year-long camera-trap survey by Holématthi Nature Foundation (HNF), led by conservation biologist Sanjay Gubbi, has revealed that the forests and scrublands fringing Bengaluru harbour an estimated 80 to 85 wild leopards.

With this, Bengaluru now surpasses Mumbai's documented population of around 54 leopards and becomes the large metropolis with the highest known number of free-ranging big cats, according to a statement from the foundation.

It is also the only metro whose fringes still support an ensemble of tigers, leopards, dholes, elephants, gaur, sambar and other large mammals.

Mixed habitats

The survey spotted 54 individuals inside Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) and around 30 of them roaming reserved, deemed and private forests scattered across the metropolitan periphery.

The team deployed more than 250 camera traps across 282 sq km of mixed habitat – Turahalli, Turahalli Gudda, B.M. Kaval, U.M. Kaval, Roerich Estate, Gollahalli Gudda, Sulikere, Hesaraghatta, Marasandra, Manduru and adjoining government and private lands as well as throughout BNP. Besides leopards, 34 mammal species were photo-captured, four of them Endangered and four Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List.

"Twenty-two species fall under Schedule I and five under Schedule II of India's Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 – underscoring the national and global importance of safeguarding Bengaluru's remaining natural habitat," said the statement.

A survey revealed that the forests and scrublands fringing Bengaluru harbour an estimated 80 to 85 wild leopards

Rising numbers

Leopard abundance inside BNP has climbed steadily – from 40 in 2019, 47 in 2020 to 54 in 2025. HNF attributed the increase primarily to stricter protection that has improved prey availability, though the past translocation of conflict leopards from other districts may also have contributed. It also credited the people co-existing with leopards and other large wildlife.

Dr. Gubbi was joined by Shravan Suthar, Sandesh Appu Naik, Poornesha H.C., Mayur Mirashi, Aishwarya Karanth and field assistants from local communities.

Recommendations

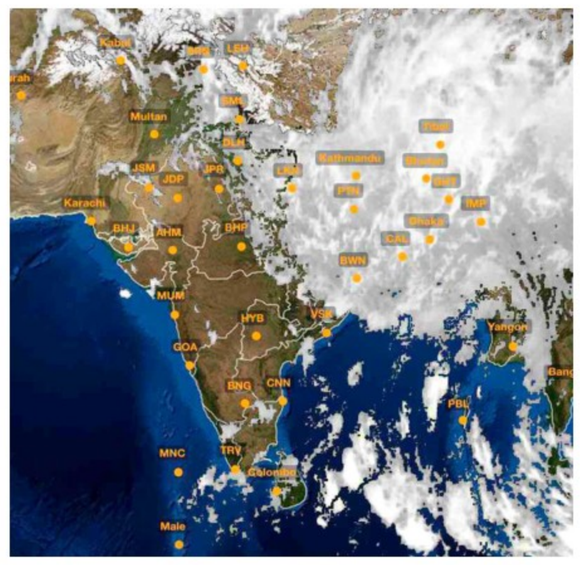
The team recommended notifying B.M. Kaval, U.M. Kaval, Roerich Estate and Gollahalli Gudda as a Conservation Reserve and adding Durgadakal RF, Bettahalliwade RF (Block B) and the deemed forests of J.I. Bachahalli and M. Maniyambal to Bannerghatta National Park, where camera traps even photographed tigers.

Conservation measures

The other recommendations included safeguarding the Muneshwarabetta-Bannerghatta wildlife corridor through appropriate conservation measures, intensifying community outreach so that Bengaluru's rapidly expanding suburbs can coexist safely with leopards, halting further translocation of leopards into BNP and addressing root causes of human-leopard conflict at the source sites.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam and Meghalaya. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.4	33.0	24.8	Kozhikode	1	34.8	25.6
Ahmedabad	—	38.3	28.2	Kurnool	—	36.6	26.2
Aizawl	—	33.5	20.2	Lucknow	4	37.4	21.9
Allahabad	—	40.2	25.6	Madurai	—	40.0	25.9
Bengaluru	—	30.5	20.7	Mangaluru	3.4	32.0	24.4
Bhopal	5	36.4	22.0	Mumbai	11	33.0	25.5
Bhubaneswar	44	34.7	23.5	Mysuru	—	31.0	19.4
Chandigarh	3	36.3	21.3	New Delhi	—	37.0	24.6
Chennai	—	38.1	28.5	Patna	0.7	36.1	26.2
Coimbatore	—	33.9	23.4	Port Blair	0.2	31.9	26.4
Dehradun	3	33.7	18.8	Puducherry	—	37.5	26.4
Gangtok	37	22.2	15.5	Pune	10	34.5	23.4
Goa	23	33.0	24.0	Raipur	—	38.0	27.7
Guwahati	33	30.5	22.8	Ranchi	8	32.1	22.2
Hubballi	—	33.0	22.0	Shillong	1.8	22.8	16.8
Hyderabad	—	35.6	24.6	Shimla	11	21.6	10.4
Imphal	—	31.3	24.8	Srinagar	2	26.1	10.4
Jaipur	8	34.9	20.4	Thiruvananthapuram	2	34.2	24.7
Kochi	4	31.4	25.2	Tiruchi	—	38.1	26.4
Kohima	4	23.4	18.3	Vijayawada	—	39.0	28.4
Kolkata	2	34.0	26.7	Visakhapatnam	—	35.0	29.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.18	..69	.31	...246	...129	
Bengaluru	.11	..10	.27	56	...158	
Chennai	.11	..16	.95	85	76	
Delhi	.15	..53	.80	...204	...123	
Hyderabad	..—	..16	.38	...130	96	
Kolkata	...3	109	128	64	64	
Lucknow	.11	..36	.57	...113	...115	
Mumbai	.43	..16	.50	55	...119	
Pune	..—	..85	.61	51	...119	
Visakhapatnam	.20	..79	.23	75	...137	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Baddi, Himachal Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 249 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Department of Agriculture
Commissionerate of Agriculture
Sheshadri Road, Bengaluru-560 001.

No. JDA(E,T&e-Gov)/e-Proc/AIC/KSDA/LFD/01/2025-26 Date: 02.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

The Department of Agriculture (DoA) invites bids through tender notification from the suppliers to supply Large Format Display unit to Agriculture department through e-procurement portal in accordance with the Bid Document.

The Bid document containing instructions to Bidders, criteria for qualification and criteria for evaluation may be downloaded from the e-Procurement Website of Government of Karnataka ("GoK") **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and the Proposals shall be submitted as per the provisions of the tender document.

Bid submission closing date : 16.06.2025. Opening of bid documents: 18.06.2025. EMD: Rs 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty Thousand only). Bid Security: Rs. 1,25,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Twenty five thousand Only)

Project Proponent: Department of Agriculture, GoK. **Contact Person: Shri Marthand.** Assistant Director of Agriculture (Farm Information). **Address:** Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, Sheshadri Rd, Bangalore-560001. **Ph:** 8277929837. **Email:** digiagrigok@gmail.com

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture & Tender Inviting Authority.

DIPR/CP/JA/1041/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division, 7th Floor, P.U. Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560001.

No. EE(SGN)/KPPP/Tend/05/2025-26 Date: 05.06.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

Two Cover System (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division, East Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites Tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Govt. Organisations for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. value of work
1	Comprehensive development of roads and drains in Banasawadi and Kammanahalli surrounding areas in Ward No. 82 & 81 of Sarvagnanagar Division.	Rs. 500.00 lakhs
	EMD : Rs. 7,50,000/- (Rs. 1.00 lakh through e-payment and balance Rs. 6,50,000/- through BG/FDR should be submitted before opening of Technical bid)	
2	Comprehensive development of roads and drains in HBR Layout, Hennur and Nagawara surrounding areas in Ward No. 76, 78 & 77 of Sarvagnanagar Division.	Rs. 500.00 lakhs
	EMD : Rs. 7,50,000/- (Rs. 1.00 lakh through e-payment and balance Rs. 6,50,000/- through BG/FDR should be submitted before opening of Technical bid)	

Period of Completion : **180 days.**

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 10.06.2025, 4.00 pm. (2)** Date of Pre-bid Meeting **: 17.06.2025 at 4.00 pm. at the above office. (3)** Last date for uploading the filled tender documents : **25.06.2025 upto 4.00 pm. (4)** Date of opening of Technical bids : **26.06.2025 at 4.30 pm. if possible or next working day.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division, BBMP

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client is intending to enter into a Joint Development Agreement with **Mr. Varadaraju Chandrashekar,** S/o Late M. Varadaraju, residing at 17, 1st Cross Road, RMV extension, Aramane Nagar, Bangalore-560 080, who owns **11 residential plots** and **27 residential Plots** allocated to the share of the Developer **M/s Satya Bell View,** a partnership firm having its registered office at No. G-2, Naveen Apartments,13th Main Road, Vasanthanagar, Bangalore-560 052, represented by its partner **Mr. Aditya Kamath** and **Mr. Sachin Kamath,** to construct residential Villas on the 11 plots and 27 plots, in the **project named "Bellevue" carved out of the Survey Nos. 97/2, 97/4, 96/2 of Kempathimanahalli Village** and **Survey No. 2/4 of Mudiganahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District,** which are morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule Property".**

Any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest or period, in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner whatsoever or having any claim against the Schedule Property or the documents thereof or against the Owner or objecting to such transaction with our client, should write to the undersigned ***within seven days (7 days)*** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to Schedule Property or any part thereof, after which period our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

Site No	E KATHA No	Sy Nos.	Area In Sq Mt	Boundaries			
				East	West	North	South
9	150300200600320242	Sy No.97/4	111.42	Site no.10	Site no.8	Road	Site no.12
10	150300200600320244	Sy No.97/4	127.73	Road	Site no.9	Road	Site no.11
11	150300200600320245	Sy No.97/4	116.85	Road	Site no.12	Site no.10	Road
60	150300200600320313	Sy No.96/2	100.59	Site no.65	Road	Site no.61	Sy no.96/3
62	150300200600320315	Sy No.96/2	111.70	Site no.63	Road	Road	Site no.61
63	150300200600320316	Sy No.96/2	104.29	Road	Site no.62	Road	Site no.64
66	150300200600320319	Sy No.96/2	146.42	Road	Site no.67	Sy no.96/1	Road
67	150300200600320321	Sy No.96/2	146.47	Site no.66	Road	Sy no.96/1	Road
7	150300200600320239	Sy No.97/4	111.42	Site no.8	Site no.6	Road	Site no.14
8	150300200600320241	Sy No.97/4	111.42	Site no.9	Site no.7	Road	Site no.13
12	150300200600320246	Sy No.97/4	111.42	Site no.11	Site no.13	Site no.9	Road

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

Site No	E KATHA No	Sy Nos.	Area In Sq Mt	Boundaries			
				East	West	North	South
1	111/97/4/1	Sy No.97/4	123.09	Road	Site no.2	Sy no.97/1	Road
2	112/97/4/2	Sy No.97/4	119.06	Site no.1	Site no.3	Sy no.97/1 & 97/3	Road
3	113/97/4/3	Sy No.97/4	120.95	Site no.2	Site no.4	Sy no.97/3	Road
4	114/97/4/4	Sy No.97/4	122.83	Site no.3	Site no.5	Sy no.97/3	Road
5	115/97/4/5	Sy No.97/4	101.35	Site no.4	Sy no.84	Sy no.97/3	Road
19	129/97/4/19	Sy No. 97/2 & 4	111.42	Site no.20	Site no.18	Road	Site no.24
20	130/97/4 97/2/20	Sy No. 97/2 & 4	111.42	Site no.21	Site no.19	Road	Site no.23
22	132/97/4, 97/2/22	Sy No.97/2	104.86	Road	Site no.23	Site no.21	Road
23	133/97/4, 97/2/23	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.22	Site no.24	Site no.20	Road
24	134/97/4, 97/2/24	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.23	Site no.25	Site no.19	Road
25	135/97/4, 97/2/25	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.24	Site no.26	Site no.18	Road
29	139/97/2/29	Sy No. 97/2	120.08	Site no.30	Sy no.98	Road	Site no.40
30	140/97/2/30	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.31	Site no.29	Road	Site no.39
31	141/97/2/31	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.32	Site no.30	Road	Site no.38
38	148/97/2/38	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.37	Site no.39	Site no.31	Road
39	149/97/2/39	Sy No.97/2	111.42	Site no.38	Site no.40	Site no.30	Road
40	150/97/2/40	Sy No.97/2	120.08	Site no.39	Sy no.98	Site no.29	Road
47	157/2/4/40	Sy No.2/4	298.68	Road	Sy no.2/3	Site nos.44, 45 & 46	Site no.48
49	159/2/4/41	Sy No.2/4	128.44	C.A.	Road	Site no.50	C.A.
51	161/97/2/51	Sy No.97/2	102.27	Sy no.96/3	Road	Site no.52	Site no.50
54	164/97/2, 96/2/54	Sy No.97/2 & 96/2	227.09	Site no. 58 & 59	Road	Site no.55	Site no.53 & Sy no.96/3
56	166/96/2/56	Sy No.96/2	111.42	Site no.57	Site no.55	Road	Site no.58
58	168/96/2/58	Sy No.96/2	141.47	Road	Site no.54	Site nos. 56 & 57	Site no.59
59	169/96/2/59	Sy No.96/2	146.98	Road	Site no.54	Site no.58	Sy no.96/3
68	178/96/2/68	Sy No.96/2	115.22	Road	Site no.69	Sy no.96/1	Road
69	179/96/2/69	Sy No.96/2	111.42	Site no.68	Site no.70	Sy no.96/1	Road
70	180/96/2 97/2/70	Sy No. 97/4 & 96/2	109.88	Site no.69	Road	Sy no.96/1	Road

L.S Kiran Mayee Reddy, Advocate
KIRAN MAYEE LAW FIRM
No. 10, G1, Naveen Apartments,13th Main Road, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052. Ph: 9739163474, E-mail: kiranmayee@kiranmayeelawfirm.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client is intending to enter into a Joint Development Agreement with **M/s Simba Investments,** a partnership firm having its office at No.35, Balakrishnan Road, Valmikinagar, Thiruvanmayur, Chennai- 600011, represented by its registered General Power of Attorney **V.R. Holding Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, having its registered office at 4/A, 5th Main Road, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009 represented herein by its Managing Director, **Sri.Varadaraju Chandrashekar,** towards constructing of residential Villas on the plots bearing Site Nos. 1 to 38, in the **project named "Bellevue" carved out of the Survey Nos. 95 & 96/1, of Kempathimmanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and Survey No. 3/4, of Mudiganahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District,** which are morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule Property".**

Any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest or period, in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner whatsoever or having any claim against the Schedule Property or the documents thereof or against the Owner or objecting to such transaction with our client, should write to the undersigned ***within seven days (7 days)*** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to Schedule Property or any part thereof, after which period our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Site No	E KATHA No	Area In Sq Mt	Sy Nos.	Boundaries			
				East	West	North	South
1	150300200600620167	111.95	Sy No. 95 of KT halli & 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Sy no.3/5	Road	Park	Plot No.2
2	150300200600620170	100.18	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Sy no.3/5	Road	Plot No.1	Plot No.3
3	150300200600620171	101.35	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Sy no.3/5	Road	Plot No.2	Plot No.4
4	150300200600620173	114.75	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Sy no.3/5	Road	Plot No.3	Sy no.3/1
5	150300200600620175	126.63	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Road	Plot No.13	Plot No.6	Sy no.3/1
6	150300200600620176	108	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Road	Plot No.12	Plot No.7	Plot No.5
7	150300200600620178	108	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Road	Plot No.11	Plot No.8	Plot No.6
8	150300200600320170	177.28	Sy No. 95 of KT halli & 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Road	Plot No.9 & 10	Park	Plot No.7
9	150300200600320171	101.57	Sy No. 95 of KT halli	Plot No.8	Road	Park	Plot No.10
10	150300200600320172	108	Sy No. 95 of KT halli & 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Plot No.8	Road	Plot No.9	Plot No.11
11	150300200600620179	108	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Plot No.7	Road	Plot No.10	Plot No.12
12	150300200600620180	108	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Plot No.6	Road	Plot No.11	Plot No.13
13	150300200600620181	127.21	Sy No. 3/4 Mudiganahalli	Plot No.5	Road	Plot No.12	Sy No 3/1
14	150300200600320173	85.49	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.31	Plot No.15	Sy No. 96/2
15	150300200600320175	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.30	Plot No.16	Plot No.14
16	150300200600320178	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.29	Plot No.17	Plot No.15
17	150300200600320179	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.28	Plot No.18	Plot No.16
18	150300200600320180	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.27	Plot No.19	Plot No.17
19	150300200600320181	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.26	Plot No.20	Plot No.18
20	150300200600320182	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.25	Plot No.21	Plot No.19
21	150300200600320186	108	Sy No. 95 & 96/1 K T Halli	Road	Plot No.24	Plot No.22	Plot No.20
22	150300200600320188	101.21	Sy No. 95 K T Halli	Road	Plot No.23	Park	Plot No.21
23	150300200600320189	126.45	Sy No. 95 K T Hallii	Plot No.22	Road	Park	Plot No.24
24	150300200600320190	108	Sy No. 95 & 96/1 K T Halli	Plot No.21	Road	Plot No.23	Plot No.25
25	150300200600320191	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.20	Road	Plot No.24	Plot No.26
26	150300200600320192	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.19	Road	Plot No.25	Plot No.27
27	150300200600320193	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.18	Road	Plot No.26	Plot No.28
28	150300200600320194	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.17	Road	Plot No.27	Plot No.29
29	150300200600320195	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.16	Road	Plot No.28	Plot No.30
30	150300200600320196	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.15	Road	Plot No.29	Plot No.31
31	150300200600320197	78.08	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.14	Road	Plot No.30	Sy no.96/2
32	150300200600320198	101.22	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.33	Road	Sy no.96/2
33	150300200600320199	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.32	Plot No.34	Road	Sy no.96/2
34	150300200600320200	93.94	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.33	Sy no.97/1	Road	Sy no.96/2
35	150300200600320201	149.08	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Plot No.36 & 37	Sy no.97/1	Plot No.38	Road
36	150300200600320202	107.55	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.35	Plot No.37	Road
37	150300200600320203	108	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Plot No.35	Plot No.38	Plot No.36
38	150300200600320204	156.3	Sy No. 96/1 K T halli	Road	Sy no. 97/1	C.A.	Plot No.35 & 37

L.S Kiran Mayee Reddy, Advocate
KIRAN MAYEE LAW FIRM
No. 10, G1, Naveen Apartments,13th Main Road, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052, Ph: 9739163474, E-mail: kiranmayee@kiranmayeelawfirm.com

गणितीय विज्ञान संस्थान, चेन्नई
THE INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES, CHENNAI
(Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. Of India)

05-06-2025

विज्ञापन संख्या / Advt No.04-R/IMSc/2025

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ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಎನ್.ಎಚ್.ಎಮ್./16(ಕನ್ಸೂಮೇಬಲ್ಸ್/ಕೆಮಿಕಲ್ಸ್)/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04–06–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ: ಸರಕಾರಿ ಲೇಡಿಗೋಶನ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿಯ ರೋಗಿಗಳ ಉಪಯೋಗಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕನ್ಸೂಮೇಬಲ್ಸ್/ಕೆಮಿಕಲ್ಸ್‌ಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ.

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(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **05–06–2025. (2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **20–06–2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.30. (3)** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **23–06–2025** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11.00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. (ಅಥವಾ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದರೆ ಮರುದಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನದಂದು ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು)

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ಸರಕಾರಿ ಲೇಡಿಗೋಶನ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು

DIPR/ADM/KSMCA/275/25-26 dt: 05.06.2025

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
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BESCOM invites tenders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from eligible bidders for Procurement of ACSR Rabbit Conductor

Sl. No.	Description	Enquiry No
1	Procurement of ACSR Rabbit Conductor	BESCOM/2025-26/IND0108
		BESCOM/2025-26/IND0109
		BESCOM/2025-26/IND0110
		BESCOM/2025-26/IND0111

Bid documents will be available from **06.06.2025** onwards. Last Date for Bid submission is **21.06.2025** at **16:00** hrs. Bid Documents will be opened on **23.06.2025** at **11:00** hrs. The Tenders can be obtained through KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring bidders need to register on KPP portal. Bidders can take the assistance of KPP helpdesk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com

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Injustice in the delay

The announcement of the Census is welcome, but the delay is unjust

India's next decadal population census, initially delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic, is now scheduled to conclude by March 2027, after a further delay apparently fuelled by political motivations. The Census in 2021 did not take place as planned, thus impacting different aspects of governance, especially social security schemes for vulnerable populations that rely heavily on updated demographic data for effective and efficient delivery. For the first time, the Census will be digitally administered, enabling faster data gathering and easier accessibility for analysis, thereby allowing population-level data to be more dynamic. However, this technological adoption also heightens concerns regarding data theft and privacy. While the nature of the Census will evolve, transparency at all levels will be crucial to building public trust in the exercise. Preparations for this massive operation, which will reach every household, are underway, with more logistical details anticipated in the weeks ahead.

India stands at a demographic crossroads, facing the challenges of growing populations of the young and the old alongside significant regional variations in key indicators. Fresh data from the Census can help address many issues. For the first time since 1931, caste categories will be enumerated. While more reliable data on the socio-economic standing of caste groups can inform development planning, the potential for further social segmentation makes caste enumeration a double-edged sword. A critical aspect of the upcoming Census is its link to the next delimitation of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies, which will redraw India's electoral map. The Constitution mandates that the next inter-State delimitation be based on population figures from the first Census after 2026. The current distribution of Lok Sabha seats is based on the 1971 population spread. With the reference date for the Census set as March 1, 2027, for most of the country, this can pave the way for the next delimitation exercise. States that have experienced lower population growth in recent decades, particularly in the peninsular region, have expressed concern that their parliamentary representation will diminish if population becomes the sole criterion for redistribution. The Centre has yet to clarify its stance on this matter. With the Census now in motion, it is imperative for the Centre to engage with all stakeholders and build consensus on the sensitive issue of delimitation. Otherwise, the delay in the announcement of the Census will be taken to mean as an attempt to ensure that the ruling BJP benefits from the increased representation for the Hindi-speaking States.

Trampled over

Poor communication and bad policing led to the stampede in Bengaluru

In less than 24 hours, ecstasy turned into despair. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) maiden Indian Premier League (IPL) title, secured on Tuesday night in Ahmedabad, triggered unabated joy and raucous celebrations in Bengaluru and the rest of Karnataka. However, by Wednesday evening, a thick shroud of grief hung over the southern metropolis as a ghastly stampede in and around RCB's home ground, the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, left 11 dead and more than 50 injured. The hallowed venue was hosting a felicitation event in honour of the victorious team while fans outside, desperate to get in, ended up as a heaving chaotic mass with many gasping for breath. Asphyxia was the primary cause of death besides injuries suffered in the stifling rush. Sport is often a tight pact between the performing athlete and the adoring fan; it triggers emotions, and in the case of the IPL, forges a connection between the franchise and a vast audience. RCB has always had a loyal fan base, and the IPL triumph was bound to attract followers running into lakhs, towards the Central Business District of M.G. Road, Brigade Road, Cubbon Road, Queens Road and KSCA Clubhouse Link Road. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah admitted that the crowd was beyond expectations.

However, to use a massive gathering as an explanation for an avoidable accident, is unacceptable. The multitude of fans near the Vidhana Soudha, the State legislature, from Wednesday morning should have compelled the authorities to tighten crowd control protocols. RCB had proclaimed that there would be an open-bus parade, but the police clarified that it would not happen. With no access to the Vidhana Soudha where the Chief Minister felicitated the players, the frenzied gathering rushed towards the stadium for a glimpse of stars such as Virat Kohli. The rumours about the gates being open to the public, and the contradictory messages about entry by invitation only, exacerbated the crisis. As the venue was packed, gates were closed but fans tried to force their way in. Be it the Karnataka State Cricket Association's (KSCA) security or police personnel, staffing was inadequate and a fatal climax was inevitable. The State Government, the RCB management, the KSCA and the BCCI have expressed their condolences while some have indulged in finger-pointing. The Chief Minister has announced that the Bengaluru Police Commissioner and all officials responsible for the jurisdiction where the stadium is have been suspended, pending an inquiry. There will also be a judicial inquiry. However, the grim truth is that the fan, who drives the commerce of every sport, is the last priority for administrators. Clear communication, effective policing and proper advance notice for an event of this scale are all essential or else, such tragedies might recur periodically.

The university versus constitutionally protected speech

Faizan Mustafa

is a constitutional law expert and the Vice-Chancellor of Chanakya National Law University, Patna, Bihar

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties," said John Milton in his famous pamphlet, *Areopagitica* (1644), opposing the licensing system (called imprimatur). Originally introduced in response to the introduction of the printing press in England in 1538 and reinstituted by the British Parliament in 1643, authors had to obtain permission or licence from the government prior to their publications. In India, several High Courts and even the Supreme Court of India are hearing petitions on the limits of freedom of expression. Should we really go back to that dated system where prior permission of the government or university is required to express one's views? Are university teachers mere robots who should write only research papers and not express their opinions on contemporary issues? Do we no longer consider free speech to be an integral part of human dignity and an individual's self-fulfilment? Is truth no more autonomous and the highest public good? Are not excessive restrictions on free speech based on the assumption of infallibility of the state or its stated positions? These are some of the pertinent issues that India must resolve because its position on these fundamental issues is bound to strengthen or weaken its ethical claim of being a true Vishwaguru. India's low rank of 151 out of 180 in the World Press Freedom Index does not enhance its stature in the comity of nations.

No doubt, 'nation first' should be the rule of thumb for all of us because no debate can survive if the nation itself perishes. We must be united in our fight against an enemy that has time and again been sponsoring and exporting terror to our country. A prompt and befitting response during Operation Sindoor has been given to the enemy nation.

The labelling of opinion as activism

We must now return to the realm of constitutional vision as we need to win the battle of ideas as well. Of course, every writer has the duty to make a disclaimer that his views are personal and do not represent the views of the institution he serves. But then a mere expression of views cannot be termed by the corporate owners of the universities or vice-chancellors as 'activism'. An expression of opinion may be dissent but not necessarily activism. Public academic institutions do not mind even activism and active politics. A professor became the national president of the Bharatiya Janata Party (1991-93).

Certainly, no writer should expect any institutional support for his personal views. No court should ideally shy away from its duty of safeguarding constitutionally 'protected speech'. It must remain consistent with its own past pro-freedom of speech judgments. The U.S. Supreme Court, *in Texas vs Johnson, 491 U.S. 397* (1989), had even considered burning of the national flag as a protected expression. India need not go that far. John Stuart Mill, in his celebrated essay on liberty, said that "'If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind". British jurist William Blackstone in 1769 considered a free press was essential for a free state. Though the 1787 U.S. Constitution did not include freedom of the press as a right (because Roger Sherman had said in the Constitution Convention that adopted the U.S. Constitution, that there was no need to mention freedom of press as the powers of the Congress would not extend to press yet within four years), the First Amendment in 1791 on freedom of press made a categorical and explicit declaration that the "Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press...."

> No institution has any right to restrict anybody's freedom of speech on any ground other than those mentioned in Article 19(2)

Democracy is government by choice and people cannot exercise their choices if they are not told about all the available alternatives. Let alternative views be expressed and protected. Moreover, freedom of speech assures individual self-fulfilment. If a citizen is not allowed to express his emotions, his opinions, his frustration, and his happiness he will not feel self-fulfilled. University owners must understand that such suffocated individuals cannot produce scholarly research as knowledge cannot be created in a controlled environment. We produced greats such as Aryabhata, Chanakya, Gargi Vachaknavi and Charaka because the education in our ancient *gurukuls* was not controlled by the state. Within the portals of universities, all kinds of ideas, which include repulsive ones, must be expressed. Today, our universities are over regulated and grossly underfunded.

Expression and the truth

Freedom of expression helps us in attaining the truth. It was Milton who said, "Though all winds of doctrine were let loose to play upon the earth, so truth be in the field, we do injuriously by licensing and prohibiting to misdoubt her strength. Let her and falsehood grapple, who ever knew truth put to the worse, in a free and open encounter". In an age of fake news, let everyone speak so that people can decide for themselves who is speaking the truth. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. of the United States rightly observed that in a capitalist market place, the "best test of truth is the power of thought to get itself accepted in the competition of market". Thus, an expression of all views would basically serve the government's cause in fencing off people from what is false.

This is nobody's case that freedom of speech is an absolute right. Indeed, no one should indulge in unnecessary talk. The exercise of right must be aimed to serve the constitutional objects of free speech, i.e., the search for truth and helping people in forming opinions about governmental actions and thereby ensuring sovereign people's participation in the governance.

The extent of restrictions

The Constitution permits only 'reasonable restrictions' on the freedom of speech and expression. The all-important word 'reasonable' was inserted by the first constitutional Amendment in 1951. These restrictions can be in the interests of sovereignty and the integrity of India, security of state, public order, decency, morality, friendly relations with foreign countries, and defamation or incitement of an offence. 'Public order and friendly relations with foreign states' too were inserted in 1951. Interestingly, restrictions in the interests of 'sovereignty and integrity' were inserted by the Constitution (Sixteenth Amendment) Act, 1963.

No restriction on freedom of speech can be imposed even by the government through an executive order. Restriction on free speech requires legislation. To satisfy the test of 'reasonableness', courts invoke the 'doctrine of proportionality'. In *Anuradha Bhasin vs Union Of India* (2020), the Supreme Court not only held the right to Internet as a part of free speech but also reiterated that the restrictions on free speech can be imposed after considering alternative measures. It added that such restrictions must be legitimate, necessary and least intrusive. It is the state which has the burden of proof in establishing that the restriction is proportionate, and thus reasonable.

No institution has any right to restrict anybody's freedom of speech on any ground other than the ones mentioned in Article 19(2). Thus, restrictions cannot be imposed by any institution just because it is a private educational institution or because it is bound by the regulatory control of regulatory bodies. These are lame excuses that do not have a leg to stand on.

The Supreme Court, in *Dr. Janet Jeyapaul vs S.R.M. University and Anr.* (2015), had held private universities as 'state' because they too discharge 'public functions' and thus, any arbitrary dictate by them would be hit by Article 14, i.e., the right to equality which includes the right against arbitrariness.

Returning to the issue of an author/writer facing the consequences, the law is crystal clear – if his speech is not protected by the Constitution, no one can or should defend him. But when the speech is well within constitutional limits, ideally, the institution should not disown him as it would not only demotivate the faculty but also result in a situation where such an institution would not be able to attract outstanding scholars. A student is the real conscience keeper of a university. Private educational entrepreneurs must know that the Supreme Court has had the consistent view that education is an occupation and not a business. Let us celebrate a diversity of opinions as in a vibrant democracy, every opinion counts and the university truly signifies a universe of knowledge.

The views expressed are personal

A Eurocentric reset, a gateway for India

Vipin Benny

is Assistant Professor and Research Supervisor, St. Thomas College (Autonomous), Thrissur, Kerala, and the author of 'The Scenario of Economic Innovations in India: An Idea for Inventor' (2021) and 'Elevating Excellence: The Relevance of Internal Marketing in Higher Education Institutions in India' (2023)

In a diplomatic move, with far-reaching consequences, United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer's new agreement with the European Union (EU) signals a powerful "reset" of their relations, resuming cooperation on food standards, fishing rights, defence and border checks. While this development may appear Eurocentric, it opens a gateway to possibilities and challenges for India that demand urgent attention.

The U.K. and the EU are among India's most important trade and diplomatic partners, and their renewed alignment could redraw India's global strategy map. For Indian exporters, this could simplify compliance and revive supply chain fluidity. For policymakers, this presents an opportunity to strengthen strategic alliances. For the diaspora, this could reshape education and migration prospects. In short, the U.K.-EU reset is not just a regional recalibration. It is a moment that could redefine India's trade corridors, diplomatic engagements, and soft power leverage in the West.

A reshaping of India's export dynamics

The renewed collaboration in areas such as food safety, customs coordination and fisheries is poised to significantly influence Indian exports to both regions. In FY2024, India's exports to the EU stood at $86 billion, while exports to the U.K. totalled $12 billion, highlighting their strategic role in India's external trade.

Post-Brexit, Indian exporters have grappled with navigating two separate regulatory regimes, especially in key sectors such as pharmaceuticals, textiles, seafood, and agro-based products. A harmonised U.K.-EU regulatory framework could simplify compliance, reduce redundancy and lower operational costs. India, a significant supplier of generic medicines to the U.K., fulfilling over 25% of its pharmaceutical needs, would benefit from a unified approval mechanism that accelerates clearances and enhances cost efficiency.

> The U.K.-EU reset has the potential to redefine India's trade, diplomatic engagements and soft power leverage in the West

Similarly, Indian seafood exports, valued at ₹60,523.89 crore (approximately $7.38 billion) in FY2024, could face fewer trade barriers if the food standards and fishing policies are aligned. However, tighter common standards might challenge Indian Small and Medium Enterprises, which often lack the capital and technical know-how. To remain competitive, India must strengthen its export ecosystem through initiatives such as the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) and the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.

A stronger voice in global diplomacy

Beyond trade, the geopolitical dimensions are significant for India. A more synchronised U.K.-EU foreign policy, particularly in defence and the Indo-Pacific, offers India an avenue to enhance its multilateral coordination with the EU. India already operates under the EU-India Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025, and in 2022, it renewed its Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with the U..K., covering cyber security, climate action, and maritime security.

As the U.K. realigns its policies with the EU, India could benefit from cohesive western support on global platforms, such as the United Nations, the G-20, and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Strategic ties with France, Germany and the U.K. are vital to India's defence modernisation and technological ambitions, especially regarding naval power.

Notably, India-France bilateral trade reached $15.1 billion in 2024-25; landmark defence agreements with Germany and the U.K. have focused on technology transfer and joint development. A coordinated U.K.-EU defence policy could open doors for deeper trilateral or multilateral engagements in the Indo-Pacific, where shared concerns over China's assertiveness persist.

Additionally, India's leadership in the Global South – spotlighted during its G-20 presidency in 2023 – can be amplified by leveraging the U.K.-EU thaw to drive collective action on climate finance, digital infrastructure and global governance reforms. A unified West could become a more dependable ally for India if it engages with India, strategically and assertively, in the future

Enhancing trade and talent power

On the mobility front, India has the world's largest diaspora, which includes large communities in the U.K. and across the EU. In 2024, the U.K. issued more than 1,10,000 student visas to Indian nationals, placing India among the top sources of international students.

While post-Brexit restrictions limited access for Indian professionals to EU markets, renewed U.K.-EU border coordination could enable partial mobility, creating a semi-integrated talent corridor. This could also bolster India's migration pacts with Germany, France and Portugal by embedding them within a broader U.K.-EU framework.

These converging shifts – trade liberalisation, mobility reintegration, and foreign policy alignment – present rare diplomatic and economic opportunities. To seize these opportunities, India must accelerate reforms, modernise its export infrastructure, and assert its role in global governance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The next Census

The announcement of India's next Census is both significant and overdue. While the shift to a digital Census marks a step forward, the more historic move is the inclusion of caste enumeration for the first time in independent India. This could provide critical data to inform policy decisions. However, the long delay and continued ambiguity about the start date raise concerns about political will and administrative preparedness. Given the scale and implications particularly for delimitation post-2026, it is imperative that the process be transparent, inclusive and methodologically sound. Enumerators must be thoroughly trained to handle sensitive caste data, lest the exercise risks becoming a demographic minefield. A credible Census is foundational to both democracy and development. We cannot afford to treat it as just another bureaucratic formality.

Gopalaswamy J.,
Chennai

Tragedy in Bengaluru

The heartbreaking loss of 11 lives during what should have been a joyous celebration in Bengaluru in connection with RCB's maiden IPL title triumph, is a stark reminder of the critical importance of meticulous planning, empathy and safety in public gatherings. While the spirit of victory unites communities, it must never come at the cost of a life.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

It is also a a tragic reminder of how dangerously misplaced our collective obsession with celebrity culture has become. Fans spend their hard-earned money on tickets, merchandise, and even firecrackers, all in blind devotion. The leagues have become overhyped and over-commercialised. Corporate houses, gambling platforms, and media giants milk the emotions of millions.

Md Sabir Hussain,
Arrah, Bihar

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Should India amend its nuclear energy laws?

PARLEY

Ashley J. Tellis

Tata Chair for Strategic Affairs and a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

D. Raghunandan

is with the Delhi Science Forum and the All India People's Science Network

Discussions are ongoing in India to amend the nuclear liability framework, regulated by the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Act (CLNDA), 2010, and the Atomic Energy Act (AEA), 1962, to allow private companies to build and operate nuclear energy-generation facilities. This move is part of a broader strategy to expand India's nuclear energy capacity from the current 8 GW to 100 GW by 2047, aligning with the country's clean energy goals. Should India amend its nuclear energy laws? Ashley Tellis and D. Raghunandan discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Kunal Shankar**. Edited excerpts:

Do you support the proposed amendments to India's nuclear energy laws?

Ashley Tellis: If India has set for itself a goal of expanding nuclear energy, it cannot reach that goal without expanding its domestic capacity. If we are talking of a timeline that is, say, 20 years, we must supplement those indigenous capabilities with foreign participation. This is where there is a roadblock. Current Indian law prevents foreign participation. The imagined future when we negotiated the U.S.-India civil nuclear deal in 2008 was that foreign companies would participate in India's nuclear renaissance. That dream has been frustrated by the legal evolution in the liability regime in India since 2000. So I would cheer the Prime Minister on, with respect to getting these amendments done.

D. Raghunandan: The idea of amending the law to attract foreign investment to expand nuclear power generation capacity in India is based on two flawed arguments or assumptions. The first is that the roadblock to expansion of nuclear power is one of investment. The second is that no major nuclear supplier country has shown domestic capacity expansion at the rate at which we assume India will expand. We have not seen that happen in the U.S. or France. Britain does not have much capacity anyway; Japan is on a slow track. Only China, perhaps, has the capacity to expand at scale and I don't see major Chinese investment coming into India.

So even if we assume that changes are made to the Indian legal framework, will that really enable fresh investments to come in, especially from the U.S.? There is no comparable U.S. trend of expansion of nuclear energy to show that any major American company or corporation has that kind of capacity. Westinghouse has filed for bankruptcy and is owned by a Canadian company. Neither France nor Russia has asked for a change in Indian law. This seems to be a purely American problem. The regulatory and legal framework in India is not a major obstacle here at all. Investments will come if the investor thinks he will get returns.

On the issue of liability... investing and not taking liability leaves open the suspicion that you want to come in and leave everything else to the operator and the host country. In 2012, when the UPA government proposed to amend the nuclear liability laws, it was the NDA that had objected on the grounds that a multinational was being allowed to get away with liability, citing the Bhopal gas tragedy.

A view of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu. N. RAJESH

AT: The Indian nuclear liability law is a genuine impediment to foreign participation in the sector. Companies from France, Japan, and the U.S. have said they cannot enter the market if the current law stands. Russia is an interesting case because Rosatom is a parastatal. Even Rosatom refused to accept India's liability law. India indemnified Rosatom through a contractual agreement reached in 2008 before the liability law was passed. After 2010, that is not an option available to the government because to indemnify through a private contract would violate parliamentary intention. This law affects Indian industry as well. The Department of Atomic Energy (DEA) had NPCIL (Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd) indemnify Indian private suppliers through contractual agreements. The problem started at Kovvada; after the civil liability legislation was passed, domestic suppliers refused to supply components. So NPCIL, through contractual agreements, waived liability using a rationale that if there is a failure in components made to their specifications, it is NPCIL's fault, a logic that is suspect and never tested in court. Raghu is right: the U.S. is driving this pressure, partly for political and economic reasons. If we want foreign participation, we have to amend the law.

Regarding supply-side capacity, whether we have it now is suspect. But this investment in

> The Indian nuclear liability law is a genuine impediment to foreign participation in the sector
> **ASHLEY TELLIS**

India is over a long horizon. Western nuclear suppliers are responsive to market signals and will build up capacity if demand presents itself.

One of the reservations with private companies' participation has been about technology transfer, particularly as this is considered a strategic space with attendant security risks. Even if India were to amend the AEA, would the level of technology transfer that took place under agreements in the past between Russia and India take place in future? Particularly in the case of the Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) that appear to be gaining ground as a safer alternative to large nuclear reactors?

AT: This is a commercial question. If your suppliers are private entities, their technology transfer decisions will be based on profitability. Governments don't have powers to force a private entity to transfer technology. The U.S. will have a role through its licensing process for what technology transfer is permitted. For example, the U.S. permitted Westinghouse to transfer certain reactor design technologies to China, a decision Westinghouse probably rues because the AP1000 technology was cloned by the Chinese. My expectation is that India will seek technology transfer and will probably get some, consistent with company profitability and what the U.S. government will want to protect for national security or proliferation reasons. Even Rosatom has not done a complete transfer of VVER-1000 technology to India; they have allowed India to build sub-components but maintain proprietary control over many elements, especially in the hot section, related to advanced materials and chemistry. This will not be a showstopper. Newer companies involved in SMRs are actually more enthusiastic about technology transfer than old majors because it is an economic decision to access the market, get economies of scale, and increase profit. This will not be a serious problem. The bigger problems are high capital costs and how much money will India be able to invest.

DR: A lot of this debate is based on hypotheticals and we cannot frame policies based on those. For 15 years, India has been chasing technology transfer and investment in defence, increasing FDI from 25% to 100%, yet no major foreign company invested or transferred technology because it's not in their interest. So I am not convinced that new futuristic technologies such as SMRs, which India does not possess, will transform the nuclear energy landscape if they come to India. The argument often comes down to making smaller 200 MW or even 60-70 MW reactors instead of 500 MW ones. In its last Budget, India earmarked money for five small reactors based on the pressurised heavy water cycle that it is familiar with. The question is attracting investment to scale this up.

Dr. Tellis, considering India is a developing country with other commitments, for these newer SMR suppliers, would it not be fair to seek compensation [if things go wrong] because it's an untested technology?

AT: No, I don't think so. The Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC) is an international effort to create an environment conducive for expanding nuclear power production and understanding its inherent risks. The CSC's purpose in a nuclear accident is not to litigate who is responsible, but to rush compensation to those affected. It has three key principles: first, all liability is channeled to the operator. Second, a pre-accident fund is created (the Convention has a three-tiered fund). Third, supplier liability is permitted if it's through contract or if there are issues of wilful misconduct; there isn't an overarching principle of supplier liability because of the fear of litigation delays. This model assumes an environment with adequate design review and a neutral regulatory authority not linked to the operator or supplier.

If a real nuclear accident occurs, the sovereign on whose territory it occurs is the ultimate guarantor of protection. The question was how to create a regime allowing them to pick from a readily available pool of money, hence the insurance pool systems. Regarding SMRs, the problem is not design immaturity. Many SMRs have very advanced passive designs. The real problem SMRs will face is economic: capital costs are still extremely high. We don't know if the SMR cost will be disproportionately smaller. A big assumption with SMRs is that they will be manufactured through an assembly line process in a factory and components transported and assembled on site. I have greater faith in the SMR technology than in the assembly line model of manufacturing just yet.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The unknown men who became unforgettable

Two journeys symbolise the travails of illegal migration

Biju Govind

When illegal immigration began dominating the headlines recently, I remembered two people from my earlier reporting assignments – C. Ibrahim and Moidu Kizhisseri.

When he was 22 years old, Ibrahim, who hailed from Vadakara in Kerala's Kozhikode district, boarded a ship to the Gulf, which landed up in Pakistan. He lived there for nine years and managed to secure a Pakistani passport. He returned to India in 1998 and married a woman called Nabeesu. By the time the police found out that he was not a valid resident, the couple had had two daughters.

In 2003, Ibrahim was to be deported to Pakistan following a judicial ruling that he was not an Indian citizen. But he was turned back from the Attari-Wagah Border as he did not have the documents to prove that he was a Pakistani national.

I met Ibrahim when he arrived at the Kozhikode railway station from the border. He told me that his family was in Kozhikode and his roots were in Malabar. He pleaded that he was not a Pakistani spy.

Kerala was home to about 365 foreign nationals, most of them from Pakistan. Several of these long-term Indian residents had been issued deportation orders to Pakistan. Some had secured stays on their deportation, while others fought marathon legal battles to acquire Indian citizenship. Many others died.

Ibrahim was remanded in judicial custody. Subsequently, a local court granted him conditional bail, asking him to report daily to the local police station and sign the official register. These restrictions were gradually eased, first to weekly and then monthly appearances.

In May 2012, the Judicial First-Class Magistrate Court of Vadakara declared Ibrahim to be an Indian citizen. Ibrahim passed away in 2016 at the age of 68.

Moidu Kizhisseri of Kondotty in Malappuram district was more like Phileas Fogg from Jules Verne's Around the World in Eighty Days. He left Kerala as a teenager and travelled around the world for 30 years before returning home.

I recall interviewing him in 2005 about his exploits across three continents. Driven by abject poverty, Moidu had boarded a train for the Hazrat Nizamuddin station in Delhi from the Kozhikode railway station during the Emergency in 1975. He was just 17. He crossed the border into Pakistan only to find himself in a military encampment. He was released.

Undeterred, Moidu tried again to cross the border in 1977. He was captured and detained in a Pakistan jail. Subsequently, he escaped to Lahore and worked on a farm for a year. From there, he crossed the Balochistan desert into Kabul in 1978. He travelled to Tajikistan and Kazakhstan before returning to Pakistan in 1979. He was back in the hands of the police.

Mistaking him for an Iranian, a Pakistani court ordered his deportation to Iran, which was embroiled in civil war. Compelled by the Iranians to fight against the Iraqis, Moidu was captured by the Iraqi army. He was released after providing intelligence about the Iranian forces.

Moidu escaped from Iran and went to Turkey, where he enrolled in a local institute to study language and history. His adventurous spirit later led him to Russia, Chechnya, Georgia, Sudan, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Bulgaria – all without a passport and visas. Finally, from Pakistan he crossed the border into Amritsar and arrived in Kozhikode on January 1, 2004. Not only did he live to tell his tale, but he also managed to learn at least seven foreign languages and publish three books about his adventures.

To support his renal treatment, Moidu was forced to donate a large collection of the artefacts that he had gathered during his travels, to the Historical and Cultural Museum at the Moinkutty Vaidyaar Mappilakala Academy at Kondotty. He passed away in Kozhikode in November 2020.

Journalism is history written against the clock. But some stories break away from time and linger forever in our memories.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK | A spectacular sunset

Sunset at Araku Valley in Alluri Sitharama Raju district in the Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh. K.R. DEEPAK

Shot on OnePlus #FramesofIndia

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 6, 1975

Sadat reopens Suez, but vows to regain areas lost to Israel

Port Said, June 5: President Anwar Sadat reopened the Suez Canal to-day in "a contribution to peace" and commercial shipping entered the waterway for the first time in eight years.

"Egypt presents this step as a gift to the world in order to help the lives of all friendly and peace loving peoples," Mr. Sadat said at the colourful reopening ceremony. But, he warned, there could be no real peace in West Asia until Israel withdrew from occupied Arab land.

"Egypt declares it determination to do its holy duty toward its land in the Sinal, the Golan, Palestine and the unsurped rights of the Palestinians," he said.

Mr. Sadat said, "While making this initiative as a contribution to peace, Egypt reminds friendly nations that parts of its dear soil are still under foreign occupation and that an entire people are still suffering the consequences of suppression and homelessness."

Thousands of people massed along the streets of this still war-battered city as President Sadat's motorcade swept by.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 6, 1925

The situation in China

London, June 5: Of the two opposing War-Lords in China, namely Feng-Yun-Siang and Chang-Tso Lin, it is reported that Japan morally supports the latter, while Russia is morally, and perhaps physically too, behind Feng.

A serious view of the possibilities of such a situation is taken by the Washington correspondent of the Associated Press who declares that he possesses information pointing to direct Soviet participation in the impending struggle for control of the whole of China.

The correspondent asserts that considerable quantities of munitions have passed the frontier from Russia. He says the plan of operations contemplate extensive operations in the north, such as will completely dwarf the usual sporadic southern outbreaks.

The correspondent states that the American Government views the situation with absorbing interest, not unmixed with anxiety. Hitherto American officials have withheld comment.

Delimitation will address concerns of southern States: Centre

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The delimitation exercise will take care of the concerns expressed by southern States, and discussions will be held with all stakeholders at the appropriate time, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said on Thursday.

In a post on X, a day after it announced that the Census exercise will be concluded by March 1, 2027, the Ministry said that Union Home Minister Amit Shah has "clarified on many occasions that in delimitation exercise, concerns of southern States will be taken care of and discussed with all concerned at an appropriate time".

'Questionable timing'

On Wednesday, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin had questioned the timing of the Census, saying that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had deliberately delayed the exercise to 2027, "making their plan clear to reduce Tamil Nadu's Parliamentary representation". The southern States have been opposing the population-based criteria for the redrawing of constituencies, which was last done on the basis of 1971 Census data.

As per constitutional norms, the first Census held after 2026 can be used as the basis to redraw Lok Sabha constituencies.

In a series of posts on X, the MHA added that the Census was originally planned to be conducted in 2021 and all preparations for this had been completed. "However, due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic across the country, the Census work was postponed. The aftershock of Covid-19 continued for quite some time," it said.

The Ministry added that all sectors, including education, were disrupted by the pandemic. "Around 30 lakh enumerators are needed for Census. Enumerators, who are primary school teachers, are key persons for conducting Census. Conducting Census after Covid could have disrupted primary education immensely," the Ministry said.

It added: "Countries which conducted Census immediately after Covid-19 faced issues on quality and coverage of Census data."

'QUICKER DATA'

» PAGE 16

Modi to inaugurate Kashmir's first all-weather rail link with Delhi today

Vande Bharat service to Srinagar to begin tomorrow; projects estimated at ₹46,000 crore to be launched; security beefed up for PM's first visit to J&K since Pahalgam attack; Chenab and Anji Khad bridges have been hailed as engineering marvels

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Kashmir is set to finally have a rail link with the rest of the country, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Srinagar-Jammu-Delhi rail link on Friday at Katra in Udhampur district of Jammu. The Vande Bharat Express between Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra and Srinagar will begin regular operations from Saturday, officials said.

Security forces at the Nowgam railway station in Srinagar ahead of the launch of J&K's first Vande Bharat train on Friday. IMRAN NISSAR

Boost to infrastructure

Mr. Modi, in a post on X, said: "Tomorrow, 6th June is indeed a special day for my sisters and brothers of Jammu and Kashmir. Key infrastructure projects worth ₹46,000 crore are being inaugurated which will have a very positive impact on people's lives."

Considered an engineering marvel, the Chenab rail bridge will improve connectivity between Jammu and Srinagar, he said. "The Anji bridge stands tall as India's first cable-stayed rail bridge in a terrain that is challenging," he added.

The Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, which will now be fully operational, ensures all-weather connectivity. "The Vande Bharat trains from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra to Srinagar will boost spiritual tourism and create livelihood opportunities," the Prime Minister said.

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also shared his anticipation on X. "Visited the tallest railway bridge in the world, the Chenab Bridge, to review arrangements for the visit of the Hon PM Modi *ji* tomorrow. Tomorrow is a landmark day for J&K when, finally, the valley will be connected to the rest of the country by a railway link to be inaugurated at the hands of the Hon PM," he said.

"I have been waiting for this moment for a long time. This rail project began when I was in the 7th or 8th class. Now, even my children have started working after completing school and college. But better late than never," Mr. Abdullah said, expressing hope for the positive impact of the project on the region's economy. "Whenever the highway gets blocked, the airlines start selling tickets of ₹5,000 for ₹20,000. Such issues will be solved from now on. Our horticulture produce like cherry and apple will be ferried."

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw clarified that a direct rail service between Srinagar and Delhi would commence in September once platforms 5 and 6 are ready at the Jammu railway station. Meanwhile, from Saturday, following the inauguration by the Prime Minister, two pairs of Vande Bharat Express will begin regular operations between Katra and Srinagar.

Train schedule

Following the inauguration, two pairs of Vande Bharat Express trains – 26404/26403 and 26401/26402 – will run on the Srinagar-Katra-Srinagar route with intermediate stops at Banihal. The 26404 train will depart Srinagar at 8 a.m., halt at Banihal at 9.02 a.m., and reach Katra at 10.58 a.m. The return service (26403) will leave Katra at 2.55 p.m., reach Banihal at 4.40 p.m., and arrive in Srinagar at 5.53 p.m. These trains will run six days a week, with no run on Wednesdays.

After inaugurating the train service, Mr. Modi is expected to visit the deck of the Chenab bridge around 11 a.m., followed by a visit to the Anji Khad bridge. The Chenab rail bridge, which stands 359 metres above the riverbed – 35 metres higher than the Eiffel Tower – is being hailed as the world's highest railway arch bridge. The 1,315-metre-long structure, designed to withstand wind speeds of up to 260 kmph, is built at a cost of ₹1,486 crore.

The Anji Khad bridge, meanwhile, is India's first cable-stayed railway bridge. Towering 331 metres above the riverbed and stretching 725 metres, it features 96 high-tensile cables and a 193-metre inverted Y-shaped pylon.

Central Reserve Police Force personnel have been deployed for security across the USBRL, especially on the Katra-Baramulla stretch and around the Chenab bridge. The Army, Railway Protection Force, and Government Railway Police are involved in the security arrangements. This visit marks Mr. Modi's first trip to J&K since the Pahalgam terror attack.

NIA raids 32 locations in J&K ahead of PM's visit

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday carried out raids at 32 locations across Jammu and Kashmir, a day ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to the Union Territory.

An NIA spokesperson said the searches across Kashmir were "part of its continuing investigations against terror conspiracy by Pakistan-backed proscribed terrorist organisations and their offshoots to destabilise Jammu and Kashmir".

"Two live cartridges, one fired bullet head and one bayonet have been recovered during the searches," the NIA said.

The agency further stated that several digital devices containing large volumes of incriminating data and documents were also recovered. "These will be subjected to a thorough scrutiny by the agency to unravel the details of the terrorist conspiracy," it said. According to the agency's findings, these organisations, backed by their leaders in Pakistan, have been conspiring to commit acts of terror.

Dassault Aviation ties up with Tata for Rafale fighter fuselage production in India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Dassault Aviation and Tata Advanced Systems Limited have signed four Production Transfer Agreements to manufacture the Rafale fighter aircraft fuselage for India and other global markets.

Describing it as a significant step forward in strengthening the country's aerospace manufacturing capabilities and supporting global supply chains, Dassault Aviation said the facility represented a vital investment in India's aerospace infrastructure and would serve as a critical hub for high-precision manufacturing.

The first fuselage sections are likely to roll off the assembly line in 2028. REUTERS

Under the agreement, Tata Advanced Systems will set up a production facility in Hyderabad for the manufacture of key structural sections of Rafale, including the lateral shells of the rear fuselage, the complete rear section, the central fuselage, and the front section.

The first fuselage sections are likely to roll off the assembly line in 2028, with the facility expected to deliver up to two complete fuselages per month.

"For the first time, Rafale fuselages will be produced outside France. This is a decisive step in strengthening our supply chain in India. Thanks to the expansion of our local partners, including TASL, one of the major players in the Indian aerospace industry, this supply chain will contribute to the successful ramp-up of the Rafale and, with our support, will meet our quality and competitiveness requirements," said Eric Trappier, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Dassault Aviation.

Sukaran Singh, CEO and Managing Director, Tata Advanced Systems Limited, said: "This partnership marks a significant step in India's aerospace journey. The production of the complete Rafale fuselage in India underscores the deepening trust in Tata Advanced Systems' capabilities and the strength of our collaboration with Dassault Aviation."

Trump revives controversial travel ban against 12 nations

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump signed a new travel ban targeting 12 countries that comes into effect on Monday, reviving one of the most controversial measures from his first term. The move bans all travel to the U.S. by nationals of Afghanistan, Myanmar, Chad, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen.

Mr. Trump said on Wednesday that the measure was spurred by a makeshift flamethrower attack on a Jewish protest in Colorado that U.S. authorities blamed on a man they said was in the country illegally.

Mr. Trump also imposed a partial ban on travellers from seven other countries: Burundi, Cuba, Laos, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkmenistan, and Venezuela. Some temporary work visas from those countries will be allowed. The ban will not apply to athletes competing in the 2026 FIFA World Cup, which the U.S. is co-hosting with Canada and Mexico, as well as the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, Mr. Trump's order said. With seven of the 12 countries banned being from Africa, the African Union said the move would harm "people-to-people ties, education exchange, commercial engagement, and broader diplomatic relations" and urged "constructive dialogue".

The ban could yet face legal challenges, as have many of the drastic measures Mr. Trump has taken since his return to office.

CRACKDOWN ON HARVARD

» PAGE 18

HC grants bail to influencer in 'communal' remarks case

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court on Thursday granted interim bail to social media influencer Sharmistha Panoli. The 22-year-old student was arrested by the Kolkata Police for making alleged 'communal' comments about Operation Sindoor from Gurugram and brought to Kolkata on a transit remand.

The High Court, while granting interim bail to Ms. Panoli, said that "at this point there is no need for custodial interrogation".

The Vacation Bench said Ms. Panoli would have to cooperate with the investigation and not leave the country.The court asked the police to provide appropriate security to Ms. Panoli as her counsel mentioned in the petition that she was receiving death and rape threats.

Railways to check for illegal immigrants by verifying Aadhaar IDs

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

The Indian Railways has issued an alert on illegal immigrants using fake or forged Aadhaar cards as proof of identity while travelling and directed Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) to check at random the veracity of the document.

In a note to Principal Chief Commercial Managers of all Zonal Railways issued on Thursday, the Railway Board said instances of individuals staying unauthorised in India with fake or forged Aadhaar cards and using them as proof of identity for various purposes, including employment and travel, had come to notice.

To curb impersonation and misuse of Aadhaar card, it was imperative to strengthen identity verification mechanism, the note stated. Wherever it was found to be a fake or forged document or in case of any suspicion, the matter should be immediately referred to the Government Railway Police and Railway Protection Force for necessary action.

Railway Board issues note to all zonal railways on unauthorised stay of individuals in India.

The Railway Board said the ticket checking staff should download and use the mAadhaar app (available for free on both Google Play Store and Apple App Store) on mobile phones.

Maoist leader Sudhakar killed in Bijapur encounter

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

In a "significant blow" to the Maoist leadership, security forces gunned down Gautam, alias Sudhakar, of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist) Central Committee in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district on Thursday, the police said. The Central Committee is the outfit's highest decision making body.

Sudhakar, 67, carried a reward of ₹40 lakh on his head, announced by the Chhattisgarh government. He was killed a fortnight after the death of CPI (Maoist) general secretary Nambala Kesava Rao alias Basavaraju in another security operation.

"Senior Maoist cadre, Central Committee Member (CCM) Gautam, alias Sudhakar, was neutralised in an exchange of fire between security forces and Maoists in the National Park area of Bijapur District. One AK-47 rifle, along with a large quantity of other explosive materials, arms, and ammunition, was also recovered during the search operation," P. Sundarraj, Inspector-General of Police (Bastar Range), said.

'Ideological trainer'

According to the police, Sudhakar was responsible for various violent incidents that resulted in the deaths of numerous tribal civilians and security personnel. He was in charge of the tech team and the Regional Political School that carries out the indoctrination of new cadres for the CPI (Maoist).

As Lavrov plans India visit, Putin aide ruffles feathers on mediation

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov is expected to visit New Delhi this month, even as a controversy brewed over Russia repeating U.S. President Donald Trump's claim, which India has denied, that Washington mediated the India-Pakistan ceasefire last month.

First visit after ceasfire

This is the first visit to India by a Foreign Minister from one of the UN Security Council's permanent member nations since Operation Sindoor. Diplomatic sources suggested that Mr. Lavrov could travel as early as next week, to discuss strategic and economic ties with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

Sergey Lavrov

Significantly, Mr. Lavrov will be arriving in India after holding a meeting with Pakistan's Special Advisor to the Prime Minister Syed Tariq Fatemi in Moscow on Tuesday, and before a possible meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin in July if both leaders travel to the upcoming BRICS summit in Brazil.

On Thursday, however, a comment by Mr. Putin's aide Yuri Ushakov raised eyebrows. While speaking about Mr. Trump's conversation with Mr. Putin on Ukraine, he mentioned that other issues were also discussed, including the Middle East, "as well as the armed conflict between India and Pakistan, which has been halted with the personal involvement of President Trump".

When asked about this, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that it had "clarified [India's] position fair and square" about the four-day conflict after India launched strikes on Pakistan's terror infrastructure in Operation Sindoor on May 7. "The cessation of hostilities (May 10) happened bilaterally and was done by the two DGMOs [Directors General of Military Operations]," the MEA spokesperson said on Thursday. It is unclear whether Mr. Ushakov simply repeated Mr. Trump's claims during the conversation with Mr. Putin *ad verbatim*, or whether Russia had any other source of information on the subject, but officials are expected to clarify India's position again during Mr. Lavrov's visit.

Apart from discussing the details of Operation Sindoor, where the success of Indian military hardware – including those supplied by Russia, such as the S-400 air defence systems – was seen, Mr. Lavrov is expected to call for speeding up Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks between India and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), the sources said. The EAEU is a common market and customs union that has been in talks with India since 2015.

EC enhances system to generate Index Cards

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Thursday said it had upgraded the mechanism for generating Index Cards, making it more technology-driven.

The Index Card is a non-statutory, post-election statistical reporting format that promotes accessibility of election-related data at the constituency-level for all stakeholders, including researchers, academics, and policymakers.

This upgraded mechanism replaces the traditional manual methods, which were often time-consuming and prone to delays.

The ECI said that the Index Card forms the foundation for generating about 35 Statistical Reports for Lok Sabha elections, and 14 Statistical Reports for State Assembly polls.

APPEAL

Master Praneeth Sai, MRN No. 10020001791424, 4 years 7 months son of Mr. Prasanth Ramgopal admitted Mazumdar Shaw Medical Centre is diagnosed with Mucopolysaccharidosis Type 6. The only curative treatment is bone marrow transplant. We are planning a Haploidentical Bone Marrow Transplant using one of the parents as the stem cell donor and TCR ALPHA/BETA and CD45RA Depletion Therapy. The approximate cost for the treatment is **Rs. 42,30,000/-.**
Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Praneeth Sai, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.
SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Multi-party team puts emphasis on India's fight against terror

Delegation led by Tharoor meets U.S. Senators and Representatives in Washington, briefs them about Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, Pahalgam attack, and Operation Sindoor; delegates focus on contrasting the trajectories of the two countries

Sriram Lakshman

The multi-party delegation led by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor began its official engagements in Washington DC with a visit to Capitol Hill to meet U.S. Senators and Representatives, to explain India's experience of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, especially the April 22 Pahalgam attack and India's retaliatory strikes (Operation Sindoor).

At a press conference on Wednesday afternoon at the National Press Club, the delegates focused on contrasting the countries' trajectories – India as a place to do business and partner with and Pakistan which was an exporter of terror.

The group had met Senators with the Foreign Relations and Intelligence Committees and India Caucus, including Jim Risch, Jacky Rosen, Dave McCormick, Mark Warner, John Cornyn and Elissa Slotkin. Mr. Tharoor said that in every meeting, their interlocutors condemned the terrorist attacks and also supported India's right to self-defence.

Warm greetings: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and others during a meeting in Washington DC on Thursday. ANI

"The fact is that there can be no equivalence between terrorists and their victims," said Mr. Tharoor, who chairs the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs.

India was focused on economic growth and development and the April 22 attack was a "distraction", he said. "India is fighting the battle [against terrorism] on behalf of the world, especially United States," said India's erstwhile Ambassador to the U.S. and BJP member Taranjit Singh Sandhu, who is part of the delegation. Terrorists have threatened the U.S. in the past, and could do so again in the future, Mr. Sandhu said.

Mr. Sandhu was asked about the U.S. position on the stand-off between India and Pakistan. Without naming any country (but presumably referring to China), he said, "I think one of the biggest neighbours of India is very much involved, and I think that has a certain clarity in the United States."

Mr. Sandhu urged Pakistan to move away from terrorism, return to the comity of nations and develop relationships like the U.S. had with India.

Shiv Sena MP Milind Deora, referring to Pakistani lawmaker Bilawal Bhutto Zardari who is leading a Pakistani delegation to the U.S., said, "It's unfortunate that a young politician from Pakistan, who should be spending more of his time in fixing his own country, is in the U.S., defending some of those who may be responsible for assassinating his mother [Benazir Bhutto]."

Asked by *The Hindu* if there were any concrete outcomes that the delegation and U.S. lawmakers had agreed, Mr. Tharoor said the group's mandate was not to negotiate outcomes - that was for the government to do. The delegation was there to clarify and explain the situation between India and Pakistan right now.

The other delegates are Sarfaraz Ahmad (JMM), Ganti Harish Madhur Balayogi (TDP), Bhubaneswar Kalita (BJP), Shashank Mani Tripathi (BJP) and Tejasvi Surya (BJP).

'Pakistan likes to dangle nuclear bogey'

Sriram Lakshman

There was no significant risk that the recent fighting between India and Pakistan was approaching a nuclear threshold, according to Congress MP Shashi Tharoor.

"I think what happened was so far short of anything remotely approaching a nuclear threshold that the proposition, frankly, is laughable," he said at a discussion at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington DC on Thursday.

"Our Pakistani friends, I think, like to dangle this nuclear bogey to get all of you excited and anxious," he said.

"We've got a nuclear power engaged in the war right now for two-and-a-half years in Europe, and no one has talked about nukes yet," he said, asking why there was such a discussion just after a few days of fighting in India.

India didn't need persuading to stop the conflict, Tharoor says in U.S. on Trump claims

Sriram Lakshman

India did not want to jeopardise its relationship with the U.S. over details about the level of U.S. President Donald Trump's involvement in brokering the May 10 ceasefire between India and Pakistan, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has said.

Mr. Tharoor also pushed back against repeated claims by Mr. Trump that he had resolved the latest round of fighting and used trade leverage in the process.

Mr. Tharoor, who is a Congress MP in the Lok Sabha, is leading a multi-party delegation to the Americas in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack and India's response via Operation Sindoor. He was speaking at the National Press Club in Washington DC on Wednesday along with Milind Deora (Rajya Sabha, Shiv Sena), Tejasvi Surya (Lok Sabha, BJP), and former Ambassador to the U.S., Taranjit Singh Sandhu, who is a member of the BJP.

Mr. Tharoor was asked if India had been firm enough in its response to Mr. Trump's repeated insistence that he had brokered a deal to end the fighting. He was also asked about Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's recent jibe that Mr. Trump had asked Mr. Modi to "surrender".

> As long as they [Pakistan] use the language of terrorism, we will use the language of force... and that doesn't require a third party
>
> **SHASHI THAROOR**
> Congress MP

Mr. Tharoor chuckled and Mr. Deora, who quit the Congress over differences with its leadership after a decades-long association with the party, could be seen smiling at this point.

'Enormous respect'

Mr. Tharoor was careful to underscore the "enormous respect" for the American presidency and the American President and said disagreeing with the claims was not a negative comment against the goodwill of others.

"As long as they [Pakistan] use the language of terrorism, we will use the language of force... and that doesn't require a third party," he said.

"If, on the other hand, they were to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism, we can talk to them... again, without needing an intermediary," he added.

India did not need persuading to stop the conflict, Mr. Tharoor said, adding that India was willing to stop fighting the moment Pakistan stopped, a position conveyed to the U.S. If the U.S. had in turn spoken to Pakistan and told them to stop fighting, suggesting that India would also then stop, that was a matter for the U.S. and Pakistan to comment on.

India had a "valuable strategic partnership" with Washington that "we wouldn't want to jeopardise over a matter of detail", Mr. Tharoor said.

"So small matters can go by and we can we can focus on tomorrow," he said.

At this point, Mr. Deora remarked, "I would just like to express my admiration for Dr. Tharoor, whom I've known for a long time. He always puts country before party."

The delegates are engaging with U.S. lawmakers, think tanks, the press and Indian diaspora while they are in Washington DC.

To safer territory

Flood exodus: Villagers in Morigaon district of Assam moving to safer areas on Wednesday as floodwaters inundated their homes. The situation eased across Assam and other northeast States on Thursday, but rain-induced disaster has claimed 52 lives so far. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Diplomacy is about incrementalism and consolidating those gains: Tewari

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

In the face of questions raised by the Congress on the "political value" of the people that the multi-party delegations had met and what the teams had "actually accomplished" on the Centre's international diplomatic outreach after the India-Pakistan conflict, delegates have said diplomacy is about "incrementalism", and it's not a "Twenty20 cricket match".

Ahead of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's meetings with two delegations, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh had said on Wednesday in a post on X that there needed to be an "honest assessment of what was actually accomplished" and not what was "spin-doctored". Mr. Jaishankar on Thursday met the delegation headed by senior DMK leader K. Kanimozhi that visited Russia, Latvia, Slovenia, Greece, and Spain, and the delegation headed by senior JD(U) leader Sanjay K. Jha that visited Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

Manish Tewari

"There are reliable reports that the welcome in some countries was very lukewarm – to put it mildly – and that the political value of the people the MPs met was below par. Videos of the MPs engaging in silly fun and frolic while on a serious national mission have also been surfacing," Mr. Ramesh said.

Senior Congress leader Manish Tewari, who was part the delegation led by NCP-SP MP Supriya Sule to Egypt, Qatar, Ethiopia, and South Africa, on the question of whether the tour succeeded in its aim, spoke of consolidation of gains. "Diplomacy is about incrementalism and consolidating those gains," Mr. Tewari said. The diplomatic outreach had ensured the Indian point of view was presented concurrently in 33 countries, he added.

"The hyphenation (India-Pak) is a temporary mirage. It is only natural that when two nuclear powers are in conflict the world gets concerned," the Congress leader said.

"We live in a contested political space. But for now, exposing Pakistan's perfidy should be the national priority," Mr. Tewari said on the question of criticism from his own party on the utility of such a tour.

Other delegates also contested the Congress's claim. JD(U) leader Sanjay K. Jha said that his delegation had met the Japanese Foreign Minister, had breakfast with Ambassadors to Japan from various countries, and in Jakarta, met with ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Ambassadors. "To criticise an all-party delegation, which spoke in one voice on such an important issue, is a new low for the Congress," Mr. Jha said.

CPI(M) MP John Brittas, who was part of a delegation, said it had clarified India's viewpoint. "We didn't go to play a Twenty20 cricket match, for there to be winners or losers. Each person is entitled to their own opinion. Our delegation has laid down the foundation, clarifying India's viewpoint," he said.

Kharge, Rahul discuss situation in Manipur with State unit leaders

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Top Congress leadership including party president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, on Thursday met party leaders from Manipur to discuss the situation in the State.

Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal and AICC incharge for Manipur Saptagiri Ulaka, and Pradesh Congress Committee president Keisham Meghachandra Singh were also present along with other leaders from Manipur.

"Manipur has been under the grip of a devastating civil war for the last two years. It requires a political solution to bring back normalcy at the earliest," Mr. Venugopal said in a post on the social media platform X later.

The meeting comes amid renewed efforts by BJP MLAs to reinstall a popular government after the Centre imposed President's Rule on February 13.

On May 28, nearly 10 MLAs, including eight from the BJP, one from the National People's Party (NPP), and one Independent MLA, met Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla at the Raj Bhavan in Imphal to stake a claim to form a popular government in the state.

Separately, the Congress leadership also met with the State leaders of Uttarakhand.

Most unfortunate, says Congress as Pakistan is named vice-chair of UN anti-terror committee

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday said Pakistan being named the vice-chair of the 15-member UN Security Council's counter-terrorism committee and head of another panel of the world body is "most unfortunate, ill-informed and unacceptable".

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, in a statement, urged the government to take resolute diplomatic actions to "dehyphenate India and Pakistan on the global stage", and exhorted "the international community to understand and support New Delhi's stand on terrorism emanating from Pakistan".

> Pakistan is the perpetrator of terror. India is a victim of terror. They cannot be equated. They should not be hyphenated
>
> **MALLIKARJUN KHARGE**
> Congress president

"Pakistan is the perpetrator of terror. India is a victim of terror. They cannot be equated. They should not be hyphenated," Mr. Kharge said in the statement posted on social media platform X.

The party also described the development as well as the multilateral funding for Pakistan as the "sad story of our own foreign policy collapse".

In global interest

The Congress chief said that making Pakistan accountable for its sins is a necessity not just for India but for the interests of the international community. "It is perhaps worth to remind that the most wanted terrorist Osama Bin Laden, responsible for 9/11, was found and eliminated in Pakistan. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the chief planner of 9/11, was also a Pakistani," Mr. Kharge said.

He added that the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the World Bank sanctioning or deciding to sanction loans and bailout packages shall only increase Pakistan's military expenditure, which its rogue Army uses to unleash terror on Indians.

"The naming of Pakistan as the vice-chair of the 15-member United Nations Security Council's Counter Terrorism Committee and chair the Taliban Sanctions Committee for 2025 is most unfortunate, ill-informed and unacceptable," Mr. Kharge added.

Grey list

Making a strong pitch to put Pakistan back in the grey list of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) – an international watchdog – for monitoring of its terror financing, he said India's neighbour was first included in the grey list after India's diplomatic efforts, under then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2008 and again in 2012. It has been in the grey list three times, the last being in 2018, Mr. Kharge added.

Pawan Khera, who heads the party's media and publicity wing, said the IMF gave $1 billion to Pakistan on May 9 during Operation Sindoor, the World Bank decided to give $40 billion post Operation Sindoor, and the ADB gave $800 million to Pakistan on June 3.

"Of course, this is the sad story of our own foreign policy collapse, but how can the global community allow this continuous legitimisation of sponsorship of terrorism by Pakistan?" the senior Congress leader said.

'Developing nations must be included in global bodies'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Thursday expressed concern over the inadequate representation of developing countries in multilateral institutions.

Addressing the second Working Session of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum in Brasilia, Mr. Birla said, "We are concerned that representation of developing countries in international institutions remains inadequate. This imbalance hampers global equity and balanced development. Therefore, BRICS countries must collectively make efforts to enhance the participation of the Global South in such institutions."

INBRIEF

Bauxite mining row: activists turned away from Rayagada

Several activists led by Medha Patkar were stopped by the Odisha Police and turned away after they arrived in Rayagada district to address a public meeting on World Environment Day, early Thursday. District authorities stated that the activists' presence could inflame tensions in the region, where tribal people are opposing bauxite mining in the Sijimali Reserve. "As soon as we got off the train, police stopped us and said we were not allowed to leave the railway station. We are not criminals. We had come to Rayagada to speak about the importance of protecting the environment," Ms. Patkar said over phone. Fellow activists Lingaraj and Narendra Mohanty were forced to leave the district.

Raja Ram idol consecrated as temple nears completion

The idol of Raja Ram was consecrated and the Ram Darbar inaugurated at the Ram Jamnabhoomi complex on Thursday, a major step towards completion of a grand temple in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh. The city was festooned and lit up as priests gathered at the temple to install the almost five-foot white marbled statue of Raja Ram, the god in his royal form, amid the chanting of hymns and elaborate rituals. The Ram Darbar also features the idols of Sita, Lakshman, Bharat, Shatrughan and Hanuman. As against the consecration of Ram Lalla on January 22, 2024, the event this time was quieter, with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and priests conducting the ceremony. PTI

Jaishankar stresses need to boost India-Central Asia links

More resources are required for that, the External Affairs Minister says, presses for intensifying trade through Chabahar port; he also calls for 'mutual settlement of trade' in national currencies

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

More efforts and resources need to be invested in improving India's connectivity with Central Asia, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Thursday highlighting the need to intensify trade through the Chabahar port in Iran.

At the India-Central Asia Business Council meeting ahead of the fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue scheduled for Friday, Mr. Jaishankar expressed support for "mutual settlement of trade" in national currencies.

"We are discussing this under the Joint Working Group on Chabahar Port under the India-Central Asia platform," said Mr. Jaishankar at the event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), referring to the requirements to energise the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC), and greater use of Chabahar port to reduce travel distance and costs between India and Central Asia. Mr. Jaishankar spoke at the event which was also addressed by Murat Nurtleu, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan; Sirojiddin Muhriddin, Foreign Minister of Tajikistan; Rashid Meredov, Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan; and Saidov Bakhtiyor Odilovich, Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan.

S. Jaishankar and Kazakhstan Deputy Prime Minister Murat Nurtleu signed an MoU to strengthen bilateral ties. @DRSJAISHANKAR/X

At Friday's dialogue, the Ministers are expected to discuss trade, connectivity, technology, and development cooperation. "They will also share perspectives on challenges to regional security and other regional and global issues of mutual interest," said the Ministry of External Affairs in an announcement regarding the Minister-level meeting. The Foreign Minister-level dialogue is being seen as significant as it comes a month after India conducted Operation Sindoor against terror targets in Pakistan and reached out to the Taliban administration in Afghanistan.

'Come up with ideas'

Mr. Jaishankar further urged the business chambers to come up with ideas for enhancing bilateral ties between India and Central Asia ahead of a possible India-Central Asia leadership summit that he said could be held "sometime in the not so distant future". In the near future, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to travel for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) meet in Tianjin, China. The first India-Central Asia summit was held in virtual mode on January 27, 2022 when Mr. Modi had hosted the heads of governments of the Central Asian countries. The third meeting of the Foreign Ministers was held during December 18-20, 2021 in New Delhi.

"I would say closer engagements between our banks and financial sector will definitely strengthen our economic interaction. Some beginnings have been made in terms of opening of Special Rupee Vostro Accounts in Indian banks by Central Asian banks and there has also been some discussions about use of UPI [Unified Payment Interface]. I would certainly support that very strongly as also the steps we could take to facilitate mutual settlement of trade in our national currencies," he said.

Mr. Jaishankar said India-Central Asia bilateral trade had touched $2 billion and added the figure did "not reflect full potential". "The need to address this is today more urgent because of the uncertainties of the international economy," he said.

RSS chief lauds unity of political parties amid border tension

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Mohan Bhagwat

The maturity and mutual understanding displayed by political parties during the recent tensions between India and Pakistan after the Pahalgam terror attack should continue to ensure the security and growth of the nation, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said on Thursday.

Speaking at the culmination of an RSS volunteer training camp in Nagpur, Mr. Bhagwat added that the Sangh considers religious conversion as an act of "violence", and is working to ensure that people are not lured or forced to change their religion.

Referring to the Pahalgam attack, he said the cuprits were punished and "the courage and efficiency of our Army has once again outshone itself".

'United Indian society'

He added that the terror attack had united Indian society, and even political parties, who kept their differences aside to support the nation.

"The political class also showed maturity as well as mutual understanding. Instead of fighting against each other, they have decided to fight together for the nation. The society also showed unity like never before. This picture has been formed for the world to see.... Also, this should continue to be a permanent feature for the safety and growth of the nation," Mr. Bhagwat said.

Without naming Pakistan, the RSS chief said that because the neighbouring country could not directly win against India, it took the help of terrorism and had started waging proxy wars. Appealing to Indians from all classes and communities to live peacefully and help each other, Mr. Bhagwat said that people should not fight among themselves over "petty issues". Accepting the request of Chhattisgarh tribal leader Arvind Netam to work in tribal areas to check "rampant conversions", Mr. Bhagwat said the RSS considers conversion as "violence".

Digital Census to speed up enumeration, aid policies with timely and accurate data: Centre

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Enumerators for the 2027 Census will make data entries on apps on smartphones for the first time, meaning that the data can be processed in real time, officials said on Thursday. This would enable faster publication of datasets, rather than having them spread out over the decade following a population count, as has been the case in the past Censuses.

Speeding up the process will allow those who make policies and implement schemes to draw from more accurate and timely data, a government report said.

The 2027 Census is likely to use the templates of two mobile applications and a portal called the Census Management and Monitoring System (CMMS), which were developed for the planned 2021 Census. Since comprehensive caste information will also be collected for the first time in Independent India, the apps will be tweaked and updated to include this data.

The 2027 Census is likely to use mobile apps and a portal called the Census Management and Monitoring System. K. MURALI KUMAR

According to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) 2023-24 annual report, the CMMS portal will be used to monitor the appointment of Census functionaries, including enumerators and supervisors; the training schedule of Census officials; the progress of field-work by each enumerator on a real time basis; and the "auto-generation of some Census Records/Abstracts".

The mobile applications – Census 2021-Household and PE-Census 2021 (Population Enumeration) – are both available on Google Play Store and the Apple platform, but can only be accessed by government enumerators.

The Census 2021-Household on Google Play had more than 50,000 downloads and an average rating of 3.5. Many users complained that they were unable to login despite multiple attempts and the edit option was not available, which led to the deletion of all data entries.

30 lakh enumerators

According to 'The Treatise on Indian Censuses Since 1981', a report released by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in May 2023, "it is estimated that the data would be collected from 33 crore households and likely to cover 136 crore people". Around 30 lakh enumerators will fan out to 24 lakh enumeration blocks, each comprising around 800 people.

The report said that till the 2011 Census, the activities were managed and monitored through manual processes, which resulted in "late output of Census results due to obvious reasons".

"After gathering a lot of experience from previous Censuses, the need for a suitable online Management Information System was felt. This led to the development of the CMMS. Experience of past census exhibits that lots of time and resources were being consumed in digitisation of data collected from the field resulting in delayed processing and dissemination of results by almost a decade," the report said.

The provision of paper schedules is also being kept, in case of connectivity issues, it said.

'Old careers will continue to remain relevant; develop inter-disciplinary skills'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

At the webinar on 'Emerging Careers 2030: Why Humanities and sciences hold the key', organised jointly by SRM Institute of Science and Technology and *The Hindu*, experts emphasised that relatively old careers continue to remain relevant.

Pro Vice-Chancellor at SRM Institute of Science and Technology Vinay Kumar and Founder and CEO, Inomi Learning, Gurugram, Richa Dwivedi Saklani spoke of the several emerging career opportunities for sciences or Humanities students.

Mr. Kumar said that while AI, green economy and sustainability, logistics and e-commerce, and healthcare and life sciences were emerging fields, as mentioned in the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025, existing careers would not change much in the future. He said jobs such as journalism, human resources, and corporate communications would remain important.

Modern problems

Responding to his observation that India had specific problems such as growing urban development and an ageing society, which required tailored solutions, Ms. Saklani said people who would mull such solutions would require skills in technology, entrepreneurship, and the Humanities.

Both speakers stressed the importance of acquiring inter-disciplinary skills. Ms. Saklani said that while people in the sciences need to learn how to handle people effectively and identify talent, those in the Humanities need to be more open to using technology, new software, and AI.

The speakers also said internships were important in expanding CVs. Mr. Kumar said several companies now request universities to send students to work with them.

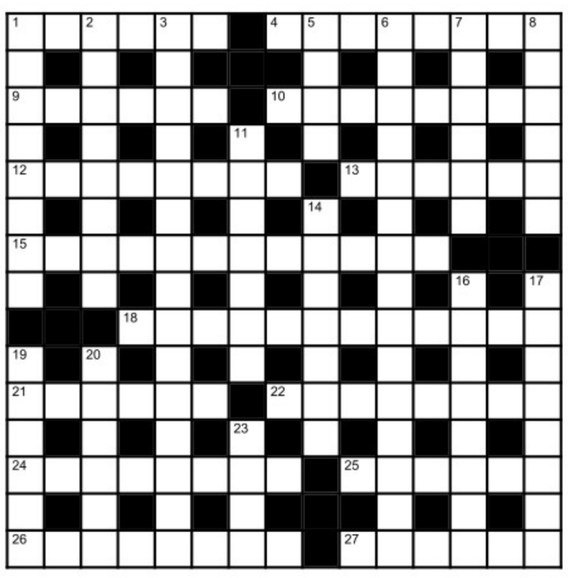
This webinar can be viewed at *https://newsth.live/THSRMWEB*

TH CROSSWORD + 14504

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Place next to monkey grabbing lollipop back (6)
4 Fancy chairs placed around over-exposed records (8)
9 Very big duck is bony (6)
10 Living intent to get liberal fixing (8)
12 Guard rail is part of raillery (8)
13 Outskirts of Seattle, remote, nice and peaceful (6)
15 Represent China - all come out like one depressed (12)
18 Old batteries become part of solar system (8,4)
21 The vegetable has it for speed (6)
22 Islanders stand around painter (8)
24 Covers apes hiding - many exposed (8)
25 Jokes about political leader's entry inside capital (6)
26 Well, it's near a building (8)
27 Navy's presence in part of the ship forms the core (6)

Down

1 Starts burrowing out mud inside a grave - find a fat man, perhaps (4-4)
2 Many drinking wine in a forceful way (8)
3 Standard artists and press all over the place (5,3,7)
5 Bother to take a month off, if feverish (4)
6 Unravel dark mechanism with the French standard (6,3,6)
7 "Church in an empty space", it is said (6)
8 Agreement in Madrid to get around northern ring (6)
11 Beer drinking - maybe she will curse (7)
14 Has been a part of royals or anarchists (4-3)
16 Fade away quietly before an immature fellow (5,3)
17 Exquisite taste - ultimately, the money supports (8)
19 Carrying back pack, bias to expose all of them trees (6)
20 Way to check patient's temperature with Mercury, say (6)
23 With great effort picked up some cheese (4)

SUDOKU

	2		9			7		1
8	4		7		5			
							6	
	6	5			8	9		
			3		6			
		8	2			3	5	
	7							
			5		2		1	4
1		2			3		7	

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	F	R	E	N	C	H	C	A	N	A	D	I	A	N
T		E		Y		O		W		L		V		E
H	E	G	E	L		P	E	N	A	L	T	I	E	S
R		I		O		S		E		E		E		T
A	L	M	A	N	A	C		D	E	M	E	S	N	E
S		E				O				A				G
H	A	N	K	S		T	H	R	O	N	G	I	N	G
		T		H		C		U		D		N		
P	A	S	T	I	C	H	E	S		E	S	T	E	R
A				F				H				E		E
N	O	N	S	T	O	P		L	U	S	T	R	U	M
A		O		I		R		I		E		I		A
C	A	R	P	E	T	I	N	G		T	H	O	R	N
E		M		S		D		H		T		R		D
A	P	A	R	T	M	E	N	T	H	O	U	S	E	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	4	1	8	2	7	3	9	6
9	3	6	5	4	1	7	2	8
2	8	7	6	9	3	4	5	1
6	9	8	4	7	2	5	1	3
4	7	5	3	1	8	9	6	2
3	1	2	9	6	5	8	4	7
8	6	9	2	3	4	1	7	5
1	2	3	7	5	9	6	8	4
7	5	4	1	8	6	2	3	9

FAITH

Muruga, God of Kali Yuga

The sight of His flag (rooster) and mount (peacock) is enough to send Lord Muruga's devotees into ecstasy. Chanting His name even once, with faith, will fetch immeasurable benefits. Hailed as the God of Kali Yuga, Muruga rushes to shower His grace on His devotees who place their full faith in him, said Dr. Sudha Seshayyan.

There are numerous examples of Muruga showering His benediction on the devotees and offering them His protection. Centuries ago, Muruga came to the aid of Arunagirinathar. Due to a number of wrong decisions and lifestyle, Arunagirinadhar's life hit rock bottom and he was on the verge of committing suicide. He was berating himself and asking God's forgiveness alternatively while attempting to end it all. However, Muruga appeared on the temple tower, prevented him from taking the extreme step. Following Muruga's advice, Arunagirinadhar stayed quiet for a few days; his mind became calm and experiencing Muruga with his mind and soul, he composed *Tiruppugazh*, marking the beginning of an illustrious life as a great, devotional composer, with the reputation of someone who could converse with Lord Muruga Himself. This was sufficient to rouse the ire of another poet, who, out of envy, complained to the king that poet Arunagirinadhar was duplicitous and should prove in public that Muruga would answer his call. The king directed the poet to prove the accuser wrong. When Arunagirinadhar sang a few lines, saying everyone, including His parents Siva and Parvati were dancing, Muruga did not appear, but when the post said Muruga's in-laws were dancing, Muruga immediately appeared for all to see.

INBRIEF

LIC acquires additional 2% stake in Dr. Reddy's Lab

Life Insurance Corporation of India's stake in Dr. Reddy's Laboratories raced past the 8% mark recently with the country's largest institutional investor acquiring an additional, more than 2% in the generic drugmaker since October 2024. From about 6.20%, the holding increased to 8.21% in a period of less than eight months through open market purchases. In terms of number of shares, LIC had acquired more than 1.67 crore during this period, the pharma major said in a filing.

TVS Motor board names Sudarshan Venu as chairman

TVS Motor Company said its board had unanimously named Sudarshan Venu as incoming chairman. Effective August 25, 2025, he will be appointed as chairman and managing director, the company said in a statement. The current chairman, Sir Ralf Speth, had informed the board that he would not seek re-appointment as a company director at the upcoming AGM and will step down as chairman at the close of the AGM on August 22.

Renaatus to invest in A.P. to make fibre cement boards

Renaatus Procon, a subsidiary of Renaatus Group, is investing ₹250 crore in the first phase in Andhra Pradesh to set up a plant for production of fibre cement boards. R.P. Selva Sundaram, chairman and MD, told the media in Coimbatore on Thursday that the plant, which will be commissioned in 2026, will have a capacity to produce 60,000 tonnes of boards annually. This will cater mainly to the construction sector in the southern States and the export market.

Flipkart secures RBI approval for direct lending in India

Reuters

Walmart's Flipkart has secured a lending licence from the Indian central bank and banking regulator, enabling it to offer loans directly to customers and sellers on its platform, a spokesperson for the company confirmed after Reuters reported the development citing documents and a source.

This is the first time the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted a large e-commerce player in India a non-bank finance company (NBFC) licence, allowing it to lend but not take deposits.

Most e-commerce platforms currently offer loans in tie-ups with banks and NBFCs, but a lending licence will enable Flipkart to lend directly, a more lucrative model for the group. The central bank issued its certificate of registration, a document that officially recognises a company as an NBFC, to Flipkart Finance Private Limited on March 13.

Reuters has reviewed a copy of both the certificate of registration and the approval letter also dated March 13. The approval has not been previously reported.

Flipkart, in which U.S. retail behemoth Walmart holds over 80% stake, applied for the licence in 2022, according to the central bank's approval letter.

The RBI did not immediately respond to *Reuters*' request for comments.

Corporate India's net profit grew 15.5% in Q4 FY25

Growth rate of income from sales slowed to 6.3% from 8.4% in the year-ago period, CMIE data show; total expenses remain flat; net profit of Nifty 50 companies grew just over 12.4%

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Corporate India's net profit growth rate increased moderately to 15.5% in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025, as against 14% in the year-ago period, according to data from Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).

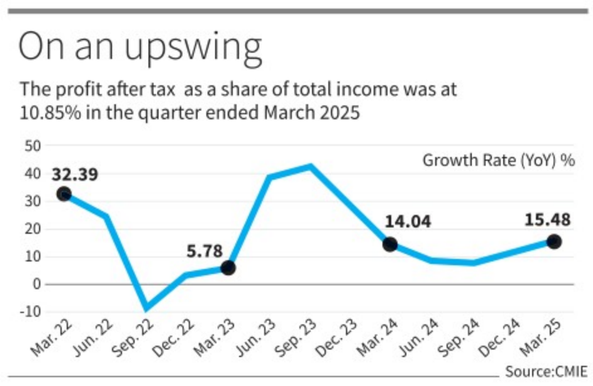
The profit after tax (PAT) as a share of total income was at 10.85% in the quarter ended March 2025. This was slightly more by one percentage point over the corresponding period of the previous quarter.

The growth rate of income from sales slowed to 6.3% in the quarter under review from about 8.4% in the year ago period. Other income increased at a pace of 7% in Q4 FY25, much slower than the corresponding period in FY24, when it grew over 14%.

Total expenses increased marginally at a rate of 6.7% in the fourth quarter compared with 6.4% in the year ago period. While total expenses stayed flat, a disaggregation of the expenses show a different picture. Raw material and purchased finished goods cost grew at 6% in the quarter under review. This measure grew just 2% in the corresponding period last year. However, expenses incurred on wages and salaries grew at a pace of 6.3% in Q4 FY25, among the slowest since fourth quarter of 2017. Expenditure on salaries and wages had grown 10.2% in the year-ago period.

The net profit of Nifty 50 companies, which are the most representative of corporate India, grew just over 12.4% in the fourth quarter of FY25 as against a growth rate of about 24.5% in the same quarter last year.

Equity analysts feel that the value of the stocks of companies across sectors are too expensive in valuations and may not justify their fundamentals."We would note that valuations have stayed at high levels in several sectors and stocks despite meaningful earnings downgrades," analysts at Kotak Institutional Equities said in a note.



Suzuki halted Swift production due to China's rare earth curbs: Sources

Reuters
TOKYO

Suzuki Motor's suspension of production of its flagship Swift subcompact is due to China's rare earth restrictions, two people familiar with the matter said, becoming the first Japanese automaker to be affected by the export curbs.

The small car maker halted production of the Swift, excluding the Swift Sport version, from May 26 citing a shortage of components.

Plans to resume output have been pushed back several times. Suzuki now expects a partial restart of production on June 13 with full resumption after June 16, as the "prospect of parts supply is clearer" now, it said in a statement.

The company declined to comment on the reason for the suspension. The sources declined to be identified.

China's decision in April to suspend exports of a wide range of rare earths and related magnets has upended the supply chains central to automakers, aerospace manufacturers, semiconductor companies and military contractors.

Alarm over the situation has grown with global automakers warning of potential production halts.

Central Bank acquires Future's stake in Generali

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Central Bank of India said it had completed acquisition of Future Enterprises' stake in Future Generali India Insurance Company (FGIICL) and Future Generali India Life Insurance Company (FGILICL) for ₹508 crore.

Anti-dumping duty to boost Bare PCB output: Ind-Ra

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The levy of 30% anti-dumping duty (ADD) on bare printed circuit boards (BPCBs) will 'meaningfully' benefit domestic manufacturers in the short to medium term, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said.

Since the duty was levied in March 2024 for a period of five years, BPCB makers would continue to gain from the rise in imported PCB prices and have improved utilisation of production capacities.

The electronics industry, the main end-user, has had to brace with increased prices of 10%-15%. Although this is a short-term impact, the supply chain is expected to see a moderate structural shift in the medium to long run through setting up of capacities in India under the Make in India initiative, the ratings agency said.

In the long term, the sustainability of these benefits will depend on resolving raw material supply chain challenges, particularly the continued reliance on copper-clad laminates (CCLs), which are predominantly imported from China, it added.

Local CCL units

Establishing local CCL manufacturing would enhance margins and improve supply chain resilience, it said.

"To strengthen India's PCB manufacturing ecosystem, especially in the light of ADD on BPCBs, it is essential to build a resilient raw material supply chain and capitalise on government-led incentive schemes," said Abhash Sharma, senior director, Mid Corporates, Ind-Ra.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,442	0.55
US Dollar	85.79	0.09
Gold	99,690	0.43
Brent oil	65.54	1.32

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2504.40	15.00
Adani Ports	1456.70	20.50
Apollo Hosp	6876.00	21.00
Asian Paints	2243.50	-5.50
Axis Bank	1159.00	-12.00
Bajaj Auto	8557.50	-6.00
Bajaj Finserv	1944.00	-12.10
Bajaj Finance	8934.00	-53.00
Bharat Elec	393.50	2.90
Bharti Airtel	1878.80	3.40
Cipla	1489.80	17.90
Coal India	394.90	0.30
Dr Reddys Lab	1290.60	38.70
Eicher Motors	5308.50	-11.00
Eternal Ltd.	256.56	10.88
Grasim Ind	2554.40	4.70
HCL Tech	1632.40	6.30
HDFC Bank	1949.60	8.40
HDFC Life	761.60	2.80
Hero MotoCorp	4178.90	-21.70
Hindalco	637.25	1.40
Hind Unilever	2376.40	11.90
ICICI Bank	1454.80	23.80
IndusInd Bank	803.20	-11.15
Infosys	1554.30	3.10
ITC	419.10	2.10
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	291.50	1.15
JSW Steel	968.75	0.20
Kotak Bank	2039.90	-6.40
L&T	3642.60	16.10
M&M	3041.60	-11.80
Maruti Suzuki	12126.00	-37.00
NestleIndia	2401.30	3.80
NTPC	328.65	-0.60
ONGC	237.77	-0.28
PowerGrid Corp	294.25	5.70
Reliance Ind	1442.40	18.90
SBI Life	1774.80	-1.10
State Bank	806.00	-0.50
Shriram Finance Ltd.	651.45	10.25
Sun Pharma	1683.10	18.20
TataConsumerProduct	1111.90	-12.50
Tata Motors	710.15	1.00
Tata Steel	157.97	-0.21
TCS	3371.10	-9.80
Tech Mahindra	1562.80	6.10
Titan	3504.00	4.20
Trent Ltd.	5673.00	166.50
UltraTech Cement	11159.00	126.00
Wipro	247.94	1.08

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 05

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.59	85.91
Euro	97.80	98.17
British Pound	116.19	116.63
Japanese Yen (100)	59.81	60.03
Chinese Yuan	11.92	11.97
Swiss Franc	104.48	104.88
Singapore Dollar	66.64	66.90
Canadian Dollar	62.66	62.92
Malaysian Ringitt	20.24	20.33
Australian Dollar	55.75	55.96

Source:Indian Bank

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e-dit
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (C-DIT)
Thiruvananthapuram-27
Ph: 0471-2380910/912
E-TENDER NOTICE
e-tenders are invited for the Supply/ Running contract of Raw Materials, consumables, Packing materials for Hologram Production.
For details and online submission of bid please visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Last date of submission of bids: 13.06.2025, 03.00 PM.
Tender id. 2025_CDIT_767836_1
05.06.2025 Registrar, C-DIT

उ. प्र. उर्दू अकादमी, लखनऊ (उ. प्र. सरकार) IAS
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Date of Admission Test : 13.07.2025
Please Contact Between 10:00 am to 05:00 pm
SHAUKAT ALI SECRETARY
UNMESH MISHRA DIRECTOR

icmr VCRC
ICMR-VECTOR CONTROL RESEARCH CENTRE
INDIRA NAGAR, MEDICAL COMPLEX
PUDUCHERRY- 605 006
Date: 05.06.2025
Advertisement No.01/ICMR-VCRC/2025-26
Applications are invited upto 23.06.2025 to fill up posts of Consultant (Administration) & Consultant (Finance) on contractual basis at ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre (ICMR-VCRC), Puducherry;
For educational qualification and other information, please visit ICMR website http://www.icmr.gov.in. Application form may be downloaded from the website and sent with required copies of certificates to the Director, ICMR-VCRC, Medical Complex, Indira Nagar, Puducherry - 605 006.
Director

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer (Project) PHED Bharatpur
Email:- aceproj.bha.phed@rajasthan.gov.in, acepbpr@gmail.com
Notice Inviting Bid No. 07, 08 & 09/2024-25, Corrigendum No. 03
Due to unavoidable circumstances bid submission date of this office NIT no. 07/2024-25, 08/2024-25 & 09/2024-25 has extended and last date of submission has been made as date 12.06.2025. Other terms and conditions as per Tender Document.
UBN No: NIT 07/2024-25: PHE2425WLOB07196
NIT 08/2024-25: PHE2425WLOB07199
NIT 09/2024-25: PHE2425WLOB07201
(Surendra Sharma)
Addl. Chief Engineer (P)
PHED Bharatpur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/6780/2025

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-Mail: osscltd@bsnl.in & mdosscltd456@gmail.com
Tender No. OSSC/Engg-118/2025
Tender Call Notice for e-tender for Purchase of HDPE Bags 2025-26
OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from the Manufacturers on item wise rate contract basis in double Cover System through Online Mode only for the work below.

Nature of Work	Purchase of HDPE bags for the year 2025-26
No of work	One Job
Availability of bid documents in portal	15.00 hours on dt.05.06.2025 to 17.00 hours of dt.25.06.2025
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	17.00 hours of dt.25.06.2025
Date and time of Opening of Bid	10.30 hours of dt.26.06.2025

The detailed descriptions of HDPE bags, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the Tender Schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation can also be seen in the said website.
CAD-649: Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd., BBSR

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines).
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252633 000058	Procurement of PP Bag for Power Bond Cement Packing (SIZE: 29.3" x 20.5")	16.06.2025
252633 000079	Procurement of Gypsum	17.06.2025
252623 000776	For Transportation of TM5 Yankee Drying Cylinder from Chennai Port to TNPL Unit - II, Mondipatti site.	26.06.2025
252623 000763	For Manufacture and Supply of Stainles Steel (SS) Pipes for OSBL Yard Piping for Tissue Machine #5 Project of TNPL Unit - II	26.06.2025
Email	252633000058 ; 0079 - purchase.lsfm@tnpl.co.in 252623000776 ; 0763 - pmd2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/2808/Tender/2025 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS – TWO COVER – ITEMRATE TENDER SYSTEM (E-Submission)

IFB No.	04/ F.CWSS to Alampalayam- SCADA (2nd call)/ DO(T4)/ CE/ CBE/ 2025/ Dated.02.06.2025
Fund	Under NABARD Loan Assistance under RIDF XXIII (2017-18) and CGF Fund
Eligibility	Registered Class I Contractors
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, No.30, Siruvani Nagar, Bharathipark Road, Coimbatore - 641 043.
Downloading period	05.06.2025 to 08.07.2025 upto 15.00 Hours
Available website	E-Tendering website https://tntenders.gov.in
EMD Payable at	Online mode through e-tendering portal
Pre-Bid meeting	25.06.2025 at 11.00 Hours at the office of the Tender Invitee
Bid Submission	08.07.2025 before 15.00 Hours Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website https://tntenders.gov.in
Bid opening	09.07.2025 at 15.30 Hours at the office of the Tender Invitee. Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website https://tntenders.gov.in

Sl. No.	Name of work	Appx. value (incl. 18% GST)	Bid Security
1.	Providing SCADA arrangements on DBO (Design Build Operate) Basis with Latest technology for Combined Water Supply Scheme to Alampalayam Town Panchayat, Padaveedu Town Panchayat including 669 Rural Habitations in Pallipalayam and Tiruchengode Unions in Namakkal District and Sankari Town Panchayat in Salem District including two years free maintenance and further three years paid maintenance. (Construction Period-12 months, Free maintenance - 2 Years and followed by Paid Maintenance - 3 Years) – 2nd call	Rs.25.55 Crore	Rs.19.17 Lakh (Through online only)

DIPR/ 2849 /TENDER/2025 Chief Engineer (i/c), TWAD Board, Coimbatore.
SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
CORRIGENDUM – I
Subject- Revision in date for Sale and Submission of the e-Tender Documents
RFx no. 7000036605 3rd Call (e-Tender) Notice dated 05.06.2025
Name of work: "3rd Call for -
1] Replacement of old 0.35 ACSR Sheep conductor with new 0.4 ACSR Zebra conductor and existing suspension tower with 30° Cut point towers
2] Height raising by new narrow base tower NDX+12 from Loc. No. 637 to 646 in vichumbe & new Panvel area of 220 kV Kandalgaon – ONGC – Vilebhagad – Topworth D/C line under jurisdiction of EHV O&M Division Panvel & EHV O&M Circle, Mahad under EHV O&M Circle, Panvel."
Please note the revision in
1) Date for Sale and Submission of the e-Tender Documents- From 05.06.2025 @ 15.00 Hrs to 26.06.2025 @ 15.30 Hrs.
2) Last date for submission of Pre-Bid Queries - 11.06.2025 @ 13.00 Hrs.
For detailed information visit our website: https://srmetender.mahatransco.in.
-Sd-
CHIEF ENGINEER, EHV PC (O&M) Zone, Vashi

OFFICE OF THE PROGRAM MANAGER
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT-PWD
Uttarakhand Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Project (U-PREPARE)
5th Floor, USDMA Building, 36, IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun- Uttarakhand
E-mail: piupwd@ukdisasterrecovery.in
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
REFERENCE No. 366/03A/DC/Bridge/PIU-PWD/U-PREPARE/2025
Date: 05/06/2025
NAME OF PROJECT: Uttarakhand Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Project (U-PREPARE) Loan No. IBRD-96540
The Government of India has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Uttarakhand Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Project (U-PREPARE), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the following consultancy:-
1. Hiring of Consultancy Firm as Design Consultant with Design Implementation support for Bridges
Proposal is invited for the above assignment. Details can be obtained from the website www.uktender.gov.in
Last date for submission of proposals is 10/07/2025.
Program Manager

डीआईपीआर आर.ओ. न.6102/2025
कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांक. 3027 दिनांक: 27.05.2025
निविदा संशोधन सूचना-1
(निविदा सूचना संख्या 04/2025-26)
NIB Code No.PWD2526A0398
इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 04/2025-26 दिनांक 02.05.2025 में क्रम संख्या 1 पर वर्णित कार्य हेतु तिथियों में निम्नानुसार आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है:-

क्र.सं.	विवरण	पूर्व वर्णित दिनांक	संशोधित दिनांक
1.	ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि	30.05.2025 सायं 5.00 बजे तक	06.06.2025 सायं 5.00 बजे तक
2.	ऑनलाईन निविदा खोलने की दिनांक	30.05.2025 सायं 5.00 बजे तक	06.06.2025 सायं 5.00 बजे तक

उक्त कार्यों हेतु Bid Security बैंक गारंटी /ईग्रास चालान इत्यादि के रूप में जमा करवायी जा सकती है, विस्तृत विवरण निविदा प्रपत्र /संशोधन में अंकित है। निविदा में वर्णित अन्य सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेगी। यूबीएन निम्नानुसार है:-
1.PWD2526WLOB01196
(एन.सी. शर्मा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर
DIPR/C/7124/2025

TEL AVIV

IDF says it has recovered bodies of two Israeli-American hostages

AFP

Israel has recovered the bodies of two Israeli-American hostages, Judi Weinstein, 70, and Gad Haggai, 72. The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) said they were killed in the October 7, 2023 attack and taken into Gaza by the Mujahideen Brigades. Their remains were retrieved from Khan Younis in a special military operation. AP

MOSCOW

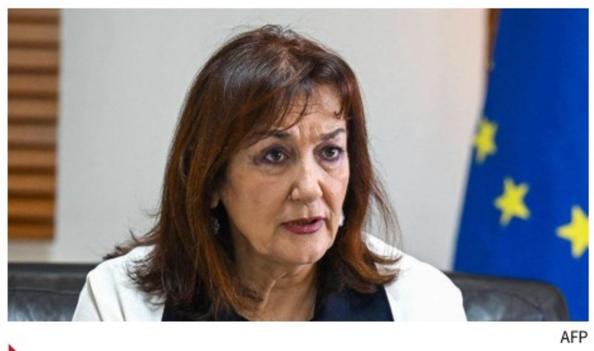
Russia outlaws British Council as an 'undesirable organisation'

AFP

Russia on Thursday banned the British Council as an "undesirable organisation," accusing it of promoting British interests and supporting the outlawed LGBT movement. Moscow called Britain the "instigator of wars" and blamed it for global crises, escalating tensions amid ongoing conflict with Ukraine. AFP

DAMASCUS

€175 mn Syria recovery package is a 'message' of support: EU official



AFP

The EU on Thursday announced a €175 million package to support Syria's reconstruction, focusing on energy, education, health, and agriculture. EU Commissioner for the Mediterranean Dubravka Suica said "reconstruction and recovery will be Syria-led" and aims to rebuild the economy, institutions, and promote human rights. AFP

GAZA CITY

Rescuers say 37 killed in Israel attacks, as GHF reopens centres

AFP

Gaza's civil defence agency said that Israeli attacks killed at least 37 people on Thursday across the territory. Meanwhile, the U.S.-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) reopened two of its distribution centres after a one-day pause, delivering 1.4 million meals on the day and over 8.4 million since reopening. AFP

Trump holds 'positive' talks with Xi, to resume U.S.-China talks over trade

Xi urged Trump to withdraw the 'negative measures' the U.S. has taken against China, while Trump 'welcomed Chinese students' to study in America; the Republican also said Xi 'graciously' invited him and first lady Melania Trump to China

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said on Thursday that his first call with Chinese leader Xi Jinping since returning to office was "very positive," announcing that the two countries will hold trade talks in hopes of breaking an impasse over tariffs and global supplies of rare earth minerals.

"Our respective teams will be meeting shortly at a location to be determined," Mr. Trump wrote on his social media platform after the call, which he said lasted an hour and a half.

Comparing the bilateral relationship to a big ship, Xi told Trump that two sides need to steer carefully in a good direction. REUTERS

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer will represent the U.S. side in negotiations.

The Republican President, who returned to the White House for a second term in January, also said Mr. Xi "graciously" invited him and first lady Melania Trump to China, and Mr. Trump reciprocated with his own invitation for Mr. Xi to visit the United States.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said Mr. Trump initiated the call between the leaders of the world's two biggest economies.

Xinhua, the Chinese state media outlet, said Mr. Xi asked Mr. Trump to "withdraw the negative measures" that the U.S. has taken against China.

It also reported that Mr. Trump said Chinese students were welcome to study in the U.S., although his administration has vowed to revoke some of their visas.

Comparing the bilateral relationship to a big ship, Mr. Xi told Mr. Trump that the two sides need to steer carefully in a good direction and for them to "eliminate all kinds of interference and even sabotage," according to *Xinhua*.

Mr. Trump had declared one day earlier that it was difficult to reach a deal with Mr. Xi.

"I like President XI of China, always have, and always will, but he is VERY TOUGH, AND EXTREMELY HARD TO MAKE A DEAL WITH!!!" Mr. Trump posted on Wednesday on his social media site.

Trade negotiations between the United States and China stalled shortly after a May 12 agreement between the two countries to reduce their tariff rates while talks played out.

Brazil's Lula accuses Israel of 'premeditated genocide'

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva accused Israel on Thursday of carrying out "premeditated genocide" in the occupied Palestinian territory of Gaza.

"(It is) a premeditated genocide from a far-right government that is waging a war, including against the interests of its own people," he said at a joint press conference in Paris with French President Emmanuel Macron.

"What is happening in Gaza is not a war. It's a genocide being carried out by a highly prepared army against women and children," said Mr. Lula, who has previously used the legal term to describe the conflict.

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva

"We see a genocide unfold under our eyes day after day," he added. "It's no longer possible to accept."

Mr. Macron said the "coming days" would be decisive to halt the conflict. "We will ramp up pressure in coordination with the Americans to obtain a ceasefire," he said.

France is due later this month to co-host with Saudi Arabia a United Nations conference in New York on a two-state solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.

Mr. Macron said that he expected the conference would take steps "towards recognising Palestine", without being more specific.

He has said he hopes French recognition of a Palestinian state would encourage other governments to do the same and that countries who do not recognise Israel should do so.

But he has declined to use the word "genocide", saying last month it was not for a "political leader to use to term but up to historians to do so when the time comes".

Earlier this year, Mr. Lula called Israel's war in Gaza "genocide" and said he was not sure the United States, a staunch ally of Israel, was "the best placed to take care of Gaza".

NATO allies cannot have 'reliance' on U.S.: Hegseth

Agence France-Presse
BRUSSELS

U.S. Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth on Thursday told NATO allies they could not depend solely on Washington for defence, as he urged them to agree a spending deal of 5% of GDP.

"Our message is going to continue to be clear. It's deterrence and peace through strength, but it can't be reliance," Mr. Hegseth said at a meeting with NATO counterparts.

Kremlin to decide 'when, how to respond' to Ukraine attack

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

Moscow will decide "how and when" to respond to Ukraine's attacks on its airbases, the Kremlin said on Thursday, confirming that Russian President Vladimir Putin told his U.S. counterpart Donald Trump that Russia would retaliate.

Kyiv's weekend strikes on Russian airfields deep inside Russia destroyed nuclear-capable aircraft and infuriated Moscow.

"As and when our military deems it appropriate," Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said when asked what Moscow's response would be. The planes were parked at air fields deep inside Russian territory, including in Siberia.

The planes hit were parked at air fields deep inside Russian territory, including in Siberia

After a phone call with Mr. Putin on Wednesday, Mr. Trump said on social media: "President Putin did say, and very strongly, that he will have to respond to the recent attack on the airfields."

Mr. Putin has repeatedly rejected a 30-day ceasefire in Ukraine and on Wednesday said that Kyiv would use it to rearm and mobilise.

Mr. Trump's efforts to end the conflict in Ukraine have yielded few results.

Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelenskyy has repeatedly called for talks with Mr. Putin, but the long-time Russian leader said on Wednesday: "What can we talk about with terrorists?"

Trump bans visas for foreign students at Harvard, threatens Columbia accreditation

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump ramped up his campaign against top U.S. universities on Wednesday, banning visas for all foreign students coming to attend Harvard and threatening to strip Columbia of its academic accreditation.

Mr. Trump is seeking to bring the universities to heel with claims their international students pose a national security threat, and that they ignored anti-Semitism on campus and perpetuate liberal bias.

Campus critique: Donald Trump claims that the universities ignored anti-Semitism on campus and perpetuate liberal bias. AFP

A proclamation issued by the White House late Wednesday declared that the entrance of international students to begin a course at Harvard would be "suspended and limited" for six months and that existing overseas enrollees could have their visas terminated.

"Harvard's conduct has rendered it an unsuitable destination for foreign students and researchers," the order said.

Karl Molden, a Harvard government and classics student from Austria, said: "He is abusing his executive power to harm Harvard as much as he can."

China vowed on Thursday to "safeguard the legitimate interests of its overseas students".

"This is yet another illegal retaliatory step taken by the Administration in violation of Harvard's First Amendment rights," a university spokesperson said.

Sport

Sreeja sizzles as Jaipur Patriots edges out U Mumba

UTT

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

In a unique team championship format like Ultimate Table Tennis where individuals compete for franchise glory, often it does seem that the most high-profile clash proves to be a decisive affair in the eventual outcome of a tie. The same was on display on Thursday at the EKA Arena as Sreeja Akula's defeat of favourite Bernadette Szocs was instrumental in Jaipur Patriots edging past U Mumba TT to register its second consecutive win in Season 6.

Riding on Sreeja's stunning win against Szocs, the Romanian ranked No. 12 in the women's singles World rankings, Patriots sealed the narrow 8-7 win with Britt Eerland, the seasoned Dutch, winning the first two games before falling in the long-pimpled trap of Yashaswini Ghorpade in the last game.

Serving it up: Sreeja came up trumps against Szocs. VIJAY SONEJI

The marquee clash, however, turned out to be the one between Sreeja, the highest-ranked Indian in UTT at 35 and Szocs, the highest-ranked player in the tournament.

With Sreeja having surrendered in straight games in their only meeting on the world circuit earlier this year, Sreeja had her task cut out. She set the tone by clinching the opening game before Szocs displayed her class by passing Sreeja through her forehand corner frequently.

Sreeja opened up an early lead and at 4-2, played two outstanding points that kind of surprised Szocs. The first one was clinched with a cross-court forehand top-spin from the backhand corner that Szocs had no answer to. The next point saw a fierce rally that Sreeja managed to close out with a powerful forehand winner.

Sreeja's win also appeared to spur Jeet Chandra as he surprised Akash Pal in an all-Indian men's singles tie to level the scores leading into the decider. Eerland then sealed the deal before Ghorpade earned the crucial last point to keep U Mumba in the hunt for the semifinals.

The results: Jaipur Patriots bt U Mumba TT 8-7 (Kanak Jha bt Lilian Bardet 11-6, 7-11, 11-9; Sreeja Akula bt Bernadette Szocs 11-9, 8-11, 11-5; Sreeja & Jha lost to Szocs & Akash Pal 8-11, 6-11, 6-11; Jeet Chandra bt Akash Pal 5-11, 11-10, 11-7; Britt Eerland bt Yashaswini Ghorpade 11-7, 11-4, 7-11).

Ahmedabad SG Pipers bt Stanley's Chennai Lions 8-7 (Ricardo Walther 11-4, 11-9, 11-5; Ayhika Mukherjee bt Poymantee Baisya 11-9, 7-11, 11-10; Mukherjee & Walther bt Baisya & Baisya & Kirill Gerassimenko 11-2, 11-6, 7-11; SFR Snehit lost to Kirill Gerassimenko 7-11, 11-3, 7-11; Fan Siqi bt Giorgio Piccolin (11-9, 11-4, 11-2)

Friday's matches: PBG Pune Jaguars vs Dempo Goa Challengers (5 p.m.); Dabang Delhi TTC vs Kolkata ThunderBlades (7.30 p.m.).

All eyes on Rahul in India-A's clash against England Lions

CRICKET

Press Trust of India
NORTHAMPTON

K.L. Rahul would look to make the most of his first red-ball outing in months ahead of the Test series against England while the fringe players will be desperate for impactful performances when India-A faces England Lions in their second and final 'Test' beginning here on Friday.

With major parts of India enduring monsoon, Rahul decided to leave for the UK before the main Test squad to train for the five-match series beginning on June 20. The Shubman Gill-led India squad will depart from Mumbai late on Friday.

Rahul, who has had reasonable success in England, is the senior-most batter in the Test squad following the retirements of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli.

Though he averages an underwhelming 33.57 in 58 Tests, most of his success in the traditional format has come at the top of the order. It remains to be seen if he continues to open or bats down the order.

Pacer Akash Deep, who didn't play in Canterbury, is likely to feature here.

NEW PRIZE

Tendulkar-Anderson Trophy for England-India Test series?

GETTY IMAGES

The upcoming five-Test series between England and India will be played for a trophy named after Sachin Tendulkar and James Anderson, according to a BBC report. It is still unclear whether it will replace the Anthony De Mello Trophy currently held by India. The England and Wales Cricket Board have declined to comment.

GAMBHIR'S LAMENT

'Never a believer in road shows; lives of people far more important'

AFP

I was never a believer that we need to have roadshows. Even when I was playing, I had the same statement to make. After winning the 2007 [T20 World Cup], I felt that we should not have roadshows. The lives of the people are far more important. Even in future, I think we can be more aware and not hold these roadshows," said Gambhir.

COMPENSATION

RCB announces ₹10 lakh each for families of deceased in stampede

K. MURALI KUMAR

Royal Challengers Bengaluru has announced a financial assistance of ₹10 lakh each for the families of the 11 supporters who lost their lives in a stampede outside the Chinnaswamy Stadium during the team's IPL victory celebrations on Wednesday. In addition, a fund called 'RCB Cares' is also being created to support injured fans.

WINNING PAIR

Errani and Vavassori clinch mixed doubles title at French Open

AFP

Third-seeded Italians Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori beat fourth-ranked Americans Taylor Townsend and Evan King 6-4, 6-2 to win the mixed doubles title at the French Open on Thursday. It was their second Major title together after the U.S. Open. Errani had won the 2024 Olympics women's doubles with Jasmine Paolini in Paris.

India yet to take a call on which three Tests Bumrah will play

The results of the matches will influence the pace spearhead's selection, says Gambhir; the head coach and new skipper Gill exude confidence that the rest of the fast bowlers will grab the opportunities in the five-match series

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Shayan Acharya
MUMBAI

High Hopes: The series against England marks the first challenge for the Gill-Gambhir combination. EMMANUAL YOGINI

The Indian team management is yet to decide which three Tests Jasprit Bumrah will feature in the upcoming five-match series in England, but head coach Gautam Gambhir and newly-appointed captain Shubman Gill made it clear that there's enough depth in its pace attack.

"We haven't taken that call, which three games is he going to play," Gambhir said on Thursday.

"We are going to have a discussion with him and (it will) depend on the series as well. A lot will depend on the results of the series, where the series is heading. That is something which I am sure he is very well aware of as well and that is important."

Fitness worry

While announcing the squad last month, the chairman of the selection committee, Ajit Agarkar, said that Bumrah had been advised by medical staff not to risk playing back-to-back Tests as part of his workload management in the wake of him breaking down during the fifth Test against Australia in Sydney in January.

But Gambhir believes that this will also be an opportunity for the rest of the pace attack, comprising Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Arshdeep Singh and Shardul Thakur to stand up and deliver.

"I have said it before during the Champions Trophy (which Bumrah missed) as well, it will give someone the opportunity to put his hand up and we have got enough talent there. I know that he is quality but we have got enough quality apart from him as well in the squad."

New WTC cycle

Under the leadership of Gill, the five Tests against England will be India's first in the 2025-27 World Test Championship cycle, and the young captain believes that there's enough firepower in the bowling department.

"We have picked enough bowlers and we have a good enough pace battery and a lot of fast bowlers are in a great space to be able to win us Test matches from any situation or any position," Gill said.

We have a perfect mix of experience and talent: Gill

Shayan Acharya
MUMBAI

Consistency pays: Karun forced his way back into the Indian team following his superb run on the domestic circuit. GETTY IMAGES

As he gears up for his maiden Test series as the captain of the Indian team, Shubman Gill knows that he has big shoes to fill in the absence of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, who retired from the format recently. But the youngster is looking forward to the challenge.

"The pressure is there on every tour. These (Kohli and Rohit) were two big players who had won so many matches for India, so it is difficult to fill their shoes. But the pressure is no different, and we are all used to playing in pressure situations and are aware of how to win," Gill said on Thursday.

"The batting and bowling combination in our team is very good. We have a perfect mix of experience and talent."

Having led the Gujarat Titans in the Indian Premier League over the last couple of seasons, Gill understands that a clear communication with the players is the key to success.

"I wouldn't say that there is a particular style that I would like to follow, but the more you play, the more experience you get. I like communicating with the players, making them feel secure and providing them that comfort. Building a bond with the players is very important, and if you are the captain of a team, you have to do this," Gill said, adding: "If your players feel secure, then only they can give you their 100 per cent."

Leading up to the series, Gill practised with Dukes ball on the sidelines of the IPL. However, he has yet to decide his batting position. "We have a tour match in London, so we still have time to decide on the batting order," he said.

Coach Gautam Gambhir, however, admitted that the pressure always mounts up ahead of every series because the goal remains to win.

The series will also see the return of Karun Nair, and Gambhir admitted that if one performs well in domestic cricket, the doors of the national team are never shut.

Asked whether Shreyas Iyer could be called up, the coach said, "Anyone can be called if they are in good form."

England includes Woakes in squad for opening Test against India

Press Trust of India
LONDON

Genuine threat: Woakes is more than a handful in English conditions. REUTERS

Seam-bowling all-rounder Chris Woakes was on Thursday named in a 14-man England squad to take on India in the first of the five Tests to be played from June 20 at Leeds.

The 36-year-old Woakes, who has 181 wickets and 1970 runs from 57 Tests so far, had played a major role in a big England win over India at the Lord's during the 2018 series.

He scored an unbeaten 137 and took four wickets in the match to help England win by an innings and 159 runs.

Woakes along with fast bowler Josh Tongue have been asked by the ECB to get some miles under their legs before the first Test. Hence the duo will turn up for England Lions against India-A in the second 'Test' starting on Friday at Northampton.

Jamie Overton returned to the Test fold for the first time since his maiden appearance against New Zealand in June 2022, even though he sustained a fracture to his right little finger on May 29 during the first ODI against West Indies at Birmingham.

The 31-year-old Overton, who also played in the recently-concluded Indian Premier League for Chennai Super Kings, "continues to be assessed and reviewed daily by the England medical team", the ECB said on its website.

The England squad led by Ben Stokes features a lone spinner in Shoaib Bashir, who took nine wickets in its win against Zimbabwe in the one-off Test played earlier this summer.

Young batter Jacob Bethell, who played for Royal Challengers Bengaluru, and seamer Sam Cook, who made his debut against Zimbabwe, were also named in the squad.

The ECB said, "Durham seamer Brydon Carse and the Warwickshire pair Jacob Bethell and Chris Woakes are included in the squad, having last featured during the Test tour of New Zealand in December."

Surrey's Gus Atkinson was unavailable for selection due to a right hamstring injury.

England squad: Ben Stokes (Capt.), Shoaib Bashir, Jacob Bethell, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Sam Cook, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Jamie Overton, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Jamie Smith (wk), Josh Tongue, Chris Woakes.

Sabalenka ends Swiatek's reign, to take on Gauff for the top prize; Djokovic makes the last four

FRENCH OPEN

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Relentless: Sabalenka dominated Swiatek and even pulled off a 'bagel' in the decider. GETTY IMAGES

Aryna Sabalenka ended Iga Swiatek's French Open reign with a devastating third-set performance on Thursday to tee up a Roland Garros final against Coco Gauff after the American knocked out French hero Lois Boisson.

The Belarusian snapped Swiatek's French Open winning streak at 26 matches with a 7-6(1), 4-6, 6-0 success to reach her first final in the clay-court Grand Slam.

"Iga is the toughest opponent, especially on the clay and at Roland Garros," said Sabalenka after becoming the first player to defeat Swiatek in a deciding set at the French Open. "I'm proud that I was able to get this win."

World No. 2 Gauff ended the dream run of 361st-ranked wildcard Boisson with a 6-1, 6-2 victory in the second semifinal on Court Philippe Chatrier.

Gauff and Sabalenka are level at 5-5 in their head-to-head record and have won one each of their two meetings at major tournaments.

Sabalenka edged a topsy-turvy first set that featured eight breaks of serve in a tie-break, before Swiatek hit back to level the match.

Anti-climax

The finale turned out to be a complete anti-climax, as Swiatek made 12 unforced errors in the third set and won only six points.

"I'm glad that I found my serve. It was a bit easier with the serve," added the 27-year-old Sabalenka. "What can I say, 6-0 – it couldn't be much more perfect than that!"

Sabalenka is targeting a fourth Grand Slam title and first not on hard courts, after winning last year's U.S. Open and the Australian Open back-to-back in 2023 and 2024. Swiatek has still not reached a WTA final since lifting the Coupe Suzanne Lenglen 12 months ago.

Boisson had got the better of third seed Jessica Pegula and world No. 6 Mirra Andreeva in the previous two rounds but the test provided by Gauff proved to be a step too far.

The home crowd were silenced by a ruthless opening set from the second seed.

Boisson briefly raised the French fans from their slumber by breaking back in the second set, only to immediately surrender it straight back.

Gauff clinically finished the job after just 69 minutes on court to book her spot in a second French Open final.

Meanwhile on Wednesday, Novak Djokovic brought his run at a record-breaking 25th Grand Slam title to the semifinal stage as he edged out Alexander Zverev. The 38-year-old fought past third seed Zverev 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 in a night session duel, which captivated Court Philippe Chatrier over three-and-a-quarter hours.

Friday's schedule: Men's semifinals: 8-Musetti vs. 2-Alcaraz; 1-Sinner vs. 6-Djokovic.

THE RESULTS

Women: Semifinals:
1-Sabalenka (Blr) bt 5-Swiatek (Pol) 7-6(1), 4-6, 6-0; 2-Gauff (USA) bt Boisson (Fra) 6-1, 6-2.
Men: Quarterfinals: 6-Djokovic (Srb) bt 3-Zverev (Ger) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Mixed doubles: Final: 3-Errani (Ita) & Vavassori (Ita) bt 4-Townsend (USA) & King (USA) 6-4, 6-2.

INBRIEF

Chelsea wins race to sign Ipswich striker Delap

Chelsea beat off competition from Premier League rivals to sign English striker Liam Delap from Ipswich on Wednesday for a reported fee of £30 million. Delap, 22, scored 12 Premier League goals during his sole season at Portman Road but could not prevent Ipswich making an immediate return to the Championship.

Shrivalli gets the better of Chang in Sumter ITF event

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty beat top seed Hanna Chang of USA 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the first round of the $60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Sumter, USA.

Other results: €145,250 Challenger, Heilbronn, Germany: Pre-quarterfinals: Rodrigo Mendez (Mex) bt Sumit Nagal 7-5, 6-7(2), 6-0. **€181,250 Challenger, Birmingham: Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Brandon Holt (USA) & Tristan Schoolkate (Aus) bt Sergio Gornes (Esp) & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 7-6(15), 6-4.

Inzaghi to coach Saudi Arabia's Al Hilal

Former Inter Milan boss Simone Inzaghi was revealed as the new coach of Saudi Arabia's Al Hilal on Thursday, days before it takes part in the new-look Club World Cup.

LIVE TELECAST

Roland Garros: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD), LIV & FanCode, 2.30 & 6 p.m.

Ultimate Table Tennis: JioHotstar, 5 & 7.30 p.m.

TNPL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

Norway Chess: Sony LIV, 8.30 p.m.

England vs West Indies: 1st T20I, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 11 p.m.

Football WC 2026: European Qualifiers, Sony Sports Ten 1, 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.15 a.m. (Saturday)

Indian archers fail to garner medals

Sports Bureau

Indian recurve men's team and compound women's team missed out on podium finishes after losing their respective bronze medal matches at the Archery World Cup Stage-3 in Antalya on Thursday.

The results: Team: Recurve: Men: India (B. Dhiraj, Atanu Das, Parth Salunkhe) got a bye (first round), bt Uzbekistan 6-0 (second round), bt Kazakhstan 6-2 (quarterfinal), lost to Korea 6-0 (semifinal), lost to France 5-1 (bronze medal match).

Women: India (Ankita Bhakat, Deepika Kumari, Simranjeet Kaur) got a bye (first round), bt Ukraine 6-2 (second round), lost to USA 5-1 (quarterfinal).

Compound: Men: India (Rishabh Yadav, Abhishek Verma, Ojas Deotale) lost to Chinese Taipei 242-241 (first round).

Women: India (Madhura Dhamangaonkar, Chikitha Taniparthi, V. Jyothi Surekha) got a bye (first round), bt Great Britain 240-236 (quarterfinal), lost to Korea 242-234 (semifinal), lost to USA 239-238 (bronze medal match).

Suruchi's simple formula to stay world-class

The 19-year-old shooter targets medals at the World Cup in Munich and the World Championship; recalls advice from coaches Suresh and Jitu

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

With three gold medals and a bronze in the four events that she competed in the last two World Cups in Buenos Aires and Lima, Suruchi Phogat is easily the golden girl of Indian shooting at the moment.

As the Indian team was getting ready to leave for the World Cup in Munich, Germany, and at the launch of the logo of the Shooting League of India (SLI) at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, the 19-year-old Suruchi said that she would continue to aim to be at her best, and not worry about the scores.

"From the national trials, National championships, National Games, to the trials again, and now in World Cups, the advice by coach Suresh Singh has worked very well for me. I believe that the better scores would happen along the way, if I stick to the right process," said Suruchi, at ease in keeping things simple.

Taking aim: For Suruchi, the emphasis is on sticking to the process. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

She did recall the advice by seasoned shooter Jitu Rai, who is now with the Indian team as coach, about a few finer points that has helped her be at her best, her normal self, in international competitions.

"I am happy to have won three gold medals so far. I want to win medals in Munich. The World championships later in the season, is bigger and then there is the Asian Championship also.

Every shooter would love to know the secrets of Suruchi to be so remarkably consistent in the international arena, and her younger brother Nishant is no exception.

"He also shoots air pistol. He shoots 580 in practice. He does want to know what I do to win all these gold medals. I just tell him that when he gets to that level, it would happen on its own for him also," said Suruchi. "I want to compete in the World University championships," said Suruchi, content to stick to air pistol, and not venture into 25-metre sports pistol.

Ritvik, Swara sparkle for ThunderBlades

Sports Bureau

Ritvik Gupta and Swara Karmarkar guided Kolkata ThunderBlades to a 5-4 victory over Dempo Goa Challengers in the Dream UTT Juniors table tennis league stage at the EKA Arena, Ahmedabad, on Thursday.

The Kolkata team completed its league engagements with 26 points, while Dempo Goa Challengers had 27. Both should make the semifinals, along with U Mumba and Jaipur Patriots who have 23 each so far, and have one more league match to play.

The results: League: PBG Pune Jaguars bt Dabang Delhi TTC 7-2 (Atharva Nawarange bt Akkash Rajavelu 11-7, 11-3, 11-5; Atharva & Tushti Sood bt Akash & Dhaani Jain 11-8, 10-11, 11-9; Tushtii bt Dhaani 11-7, 11-8, 6-11).

Kolkata ThunderBlades bt Dempo Goa Challengers 5-4 (Ritvik Gupta bt Sahil Rawat 11-3, 11-10, 3-11; Ritvik & Swara Karmarkar lost to Sahil & Aarya Redkar 10-11, 11-9, 10-11; Swara bt Aarya 11-5, 11-7, 9-11).

Satwik-Chirag duo enters quarterfinals

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
JAKARTA

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty advanced to the quarterfinals while P.V. Sindhu lost in the women's singles second round in the Indonesia Open Super 1000 badminton tournament here on Thursday.

Satwik and Chirag showed great temperament under pressure to register a hard-fought 16-21, 21-18, 22-20 win over world number 16 Danish pair of Rasmus Kjaer and Frederik Sogaard in a 68-minute second-round clash.

Earlier, Sindhu faltered in the deciding game to go down to world number 8 Pornpawee Chochuwong of Thailand in the second round.

Sindhu squandered a 15-11 lead in the decider to lose 22-20, 10-21, 18-21 in a gruelling 78-minute battle.

Sathish Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath also bowed out in the second round.

The results (second round): Women: Pornpawee Chochuwong (Tha) bt P.V. Sindhu 20-22, 21-10, 21-18.
Doubles: Yuki Fukushima & Mayu Matsumoto (Jpn) bt Gayatri Gopi Chand & Treesa Jolly 21-13, 24-22.
Men: Doubles: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt Rasmus Kjaer & Frederik Sogaard 16-21, 21-18, 22-20.
Mixed doubles: Dechapol Puavaranukroh & Supissara Paewsampran (Tha) bt Sathish Karunakaran & Aadya Variyath 21-7, 21-12.

ROUND-UP

Saanvi and Vani in the van

BENGALURU: Amateur Saanvi Somu was tied for the lead alongside Vani Kapoor after the second round in leg 8 of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the BGC course here on Thursday. Saanvi (69, 69) and Vani (67, 71) are tied on two-under 138 overall. Gaurika Bishnoi lies one shot behind the leaders in third place.

Easy for Vivekananda

Vivekananda FC cruised to a 5-0 win over BHEL (EDN) FC in the BDFA 'C' division football league.

Other results: BDFA 'C' Division: Jolly Brothers FC bt Bangalore Reds FC 2-0; Konkan FC drew with Agaram FC 1-1; Maharaja Socials FC drew with Ambedkar FC 1-1.

KSFA 'C' Division: White Field FC bt William FC 5-0; Freelancers FC bt PKR FC 2-0; North East Youths bt Blues Football Academy 1-0.

Portugal bests Germany to reach Nations League final

FOOTBALL

Agence France-Presse
MUNICH

Cristiano Ronaldo scored the winner in a 2-1 victory over Germany in Munich on Wednesday, sending Portugal through to the Nations League final and breaking his run of bad fortune against the Germans.

Ronaldo's 68th-minute tap in, a record-extending 137th international goal, sealed a first win over Germany after five losses, his longest streak against any national side without tasting victory.

After a stuttering first half, Florian Wirtz produced a moment of magic to give Germany the lead three minutes after half-time, starting and finishing a clever burst through the middle and heading in the opener.

Tap-in: Ronaldo bundles in Portugal's winner from close range past German shot-stopper Ter Stegen. AP

Portugal's Francisco Conceicao ran 35 metres to score a brilliant solo goal, levelling things up with half an hour remaining.

The stage was then set for Ronaldo, who had missed two solid chances earlier, to land the telling blow, turning in a Nuno Mendes pass from close range.

The result (semifinal): Germany 1 (Wirtz 48) lost to Portugal 2 (Conceicao 63, Ronaldo 68).

Akshaya Motors: Mysuru Road: Tel: 0-9108535297, Koramangala: Tel: 0-9108535484, Mysuru: Tel: 0-9019455055 (CIN: U34300KA1998PTC023605)
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